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WARREN A. PATRICK

GENERAL DIRECTOR.

Vol. III No. 14

CHICAGO

September 26, 1908



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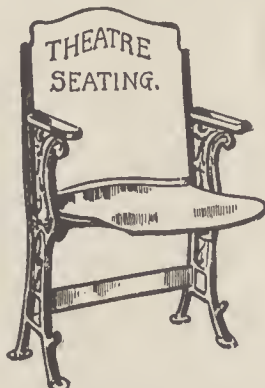


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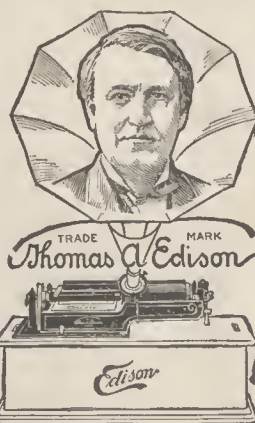
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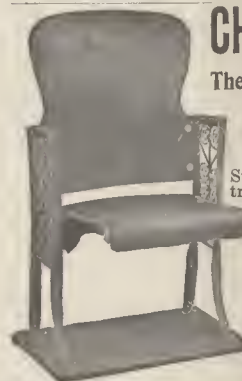


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THE SHOW WORLD

THE TWENTIETH CENTURY AMUSEMENT WEEKLY

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Volume III—No. 14

CHICAGO

September 26, 1908

CHARGE COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT.

Nance O'Neil and McKee Rankin Arrested
in Gotham, while Frisco Firm also
Held by U. S. Authorities.

New York, Sept. 23.

Charles Swickard, who claims to hold the copyright of the play entitled *The Fires of St. John*, is stirring up a lot of trouble for those that he alleged made use of the play without any legal right to do so. Nance O'Neil and her manager, McKee Rankin, were arrested by the United States authorities here and paroled in the custody of their counsel until further examination.

Out in Frisco L. R. Stockwell, the veteran actor and manager, and Norval MacGregor, have been indicted by the U. S. grand jury and arrested for infringement upon the copyright rules of this same play. It was under Stockwell & MacGregor's management that Nance O'Neil produced the play for the infringement of which they were arrested.

Swickard, the accusing party, is at present stage manager at the American theater in San Francisco. He claims that the production of his translation of the *Fires of St. John* is a plain infringement, while, on the other side, it is maintained that Swickard's adaptation of the play into English had to be revised and rewritten for Miss O'Neil to such a degree that its production could not be construed in any way as an infringement upon Swickard's copyright.

PHILADELPHIA HAS NEW M. P. HOUSE.

Former Y. M. C. A. Building at Fifteenth and Chestnut Becomes Vaudeville and Film Theater—Seats 1,000.

Philadelphia, Sept. 22.

Under the name of the Fifteenth Street theater, the old building at Fifteenth and Chestnut streets, which, until recently, was used by the central branch of the Young Men's Christian Association, will open with a vaudeville and moving picture show about October 5.

A force of 100 men is now working on the building making the necessary alterations. It is intended to have an auditorium which will seat 1,000 persons.

The new playhouse will be under the control of a syndicate comprising W. H. Reynolds, Patrick McCarren, "Tim" Sullivan and Thomas Considine, of New York, and Select Councilman Thomas J. Ryan, of Philadelphia. These men have had control of Dreamland, at Coney Island. The lease for the Y. M. C. A. building is for four years, says the North-American.

It is intended in the new venture to inaugurate something new in the entertainment line. There will be, in addition to the moving picture shows and vaudeville, a new kind of talking picture and minstrel entertainment. The performances will be given daily, beginning at noon and running until midnight.

Twenty-eight performers have been engaged to take parts in a number of sketches which are to be produced. The auditorium of the old Association Hall is being completely renovated.

"LITTLE JIMMIE" DEAD.

Our Hundred and Fifty-Pound Leader of Vaudeville Theater Orchestra Passes Away at the Age of Thirty-Five.

St. Paul, Minn., Sept. 21.

"Little Jimmie" is dead. No one save his own family ever knew him by any other name, although he had been christened James and his family name was LaTourrelle. He was called little because he weighed 450 pounds. He had been leader of an orchestra at a local vaudeville theater for many years and had become very popular with the patrons and profession. He was thirty-five years old.

DALLAS DALE FOUND DEAD.

Cincinnati, O., Sept. 19.—Dallas Dale, an actress, was found dead at her home at 353 East Third street yesterday afternoon. Miss Dale, who was 29 years of age, had been engaged in doing a vaudeville turn with A. J. Newton. Her home is in Galveston, Tex. While she was alone in her room yesterday a child was prematurely born. Before medical aid could be secured she died. Coroner Cameron was notified and will hold an inquest.

MURDOCK OBTAINS CHICAGO OLYMPIC

Board of Directors of W. V. M. A. Hold Annual Meeting—Sell Local Playhouse to General Manager Who Will Make Headquarters Here—Martin Beck to Supervise Eastern Bookings—Branch Office For Texas.

At the annual meeting of the Board of Directors of the Western Vaudeville Managers' Association, held in Chicago on Tuesday and Wednesday, Sept. 22-23, it was decided that J. J. Murdock should devote this entire time to the home office. Mr. Murdock also arranged for the personal ownership of the Olympic theater, Chicago, which will be operated on a different policy.

All directors of the association were present, including J. J. Murdock, president, C. E. Kohl, M. Myerfeld, Martin Beck, George Middleton, M. C. Anderson and George Castle.

Mr. Murdock brought up the fact that during the past eighteen months he had spent over a year in New York, diverting his time and attention from the home office, with the result that many important affairs had been delayed awaiting his personal attention. His immediate presence on the ground at all times will expedite and facilitate matters, providing instantaneous action on matters of moment.

In view of the fact that the vaudeville situation is in a satisfactory condition all over the country, and that the association of the various amusement interests has been consummated, including Klaw & Erlanger, Stair & Havlin, the Shuberts, western and eastern burlesque and western and eastern vaudeville, it will obviate the necessity of Mr. Murdock's presence in New York, as Martin Beck will make his residence in that city, and being personally interested in all of the houses will attend to the general bookings.

As the bookings would be the only matters requiring Mr. Murdock's attention in New York, this will leave him free to give his personal attention to the Chicago office, which will result in improved service.

The action is not a reflection upon the work of the various departments at the home office, who were obliged to hold up matters of vital importance for Mr. Murdock's consideration, and will now be enabled to take same up immediately for action.

The outlying towns will also benefit by the new arrangement, receiving Mr. Murdock's personal attention, and will no doubt result in the installation of a branch office, as announced in these columns some weeks ago, at some point in Texas, to improve the booking service of southern points.

The question of placing the Olympic theater upon the market was considered at length, resulting in Mr. Murdock's purchasing this playhouse from the association, which will be operated by him on the same policy as the Masonic Temple theater, in Chicago. High class vaudeville will be presented, with smoking permitted in the audience. It will be remembered that the Masonic Temple theater, under Mr. Murdock's direction, was the first vaudeville theater in America to put on expensive bills and allow smoking.

Immediate reconstruction will be begun on the Olympic, as the entire theater is to be redecorated and overhauled, and it is expected that the complete improvements will be finished by Nov. 1. As most of the work can be done while the theater is in operation the playhouse will not be closed for more than a fortnight, immediately preceding the inauguration of the new regime.

It will practically be run on the order of the better class Paris and London music halls. It will be known as the Olympic Music Hall.

After the meeting Mr. Beck left immediately for New York.

RATS DENOUNCE ACT.

Mountford Declares Joe Howard and Mabel Barrison Jumped Morris Contract in Favor of Percy Williams.

New York, Sept. 22.

Harry Mountford, secretary of the White Rats, took the stage of Blaney's Lincoln Square theater, Monday night, long enough to tell the audience that Joe Howard and Mabel Barrison had jumped their contracts with William Morris because they had been offered more money by Percy Williams. He said that they were members of the organization which he represented but he did not care to say what the White Rats would do to them. The hole left in the program was filled by George Fuller Golden.

The action of Mr. Mountford in making the announcement he did from the stage of Blaney's has been interpreted as meaning that the White Rats have openly acknowledged their alliance with William Morris. Secretary Mountford declares that such a conclusion is not the correct interpretation of his actions. His reason for taking the step he did was to help explain the failure of the team to appear as advertised. Contract jumping is down on the list of that organization as a cardinal sin.

Capt. Demetri Injured.

Muscantine, Ia., Sept. 22.

Capt. Demetri, a Russian Cossack with the Campbell Bros. show, was fatally injured during a performance at Muscantine. While riding at breakneck speed about the hippodrome track, his head struck a tent pole, dislocating his legs and crushing his skull.

OPPENHEIMER LEASES ORPHEUM.

Will Add Davenport, Ia., House to His Burlesque Circuit.

Davenport, Ia., Sept. 23.

Joe Oppenheimer, a well known burlesque and vaudeville manager in the middle West, has leased the Orpheum theater on Perry street. During the past three years Oppenheimer has conducted a circuit of burlesque theaters producing stock as follows: Polly theater, Chicago; Star theater, Cleveland; Avenue theater, Detroit, and New Star theater, Milwaukee. He now adds the Orpheum of Davenport to this splendid circuit and will therefore be in a position to give his patrons the very best to be had in the burlesque line.

John J. Collins Promoted.

John J. Collins, who for the past two years has acted as secretary to J. J. Murdock, general manager of the Western Vaudeville Managers' Association, will leave for New York next week to act in a similar capacity for Martin Beck in that city. Mr. Collins has been under Mr. Murdock's personal supervision, and has been enabled to grasp the details of the business. The transfer is intended as recognition of his services, and he will no doubt prove of valuable assistance to Mr. Beck in the booking department.

Franklin for Sells-Floto?

Denver, Colo., Sept. 23.

Special to THE SHOW WORLD.
It is rumored here that Sells-Floto management are negotiating with W. E. Franklin for general agent for the season of 1909.—DIXON.

HI HENRY STRICKEN.

Veteran Minstrel Afflicted With Apoplexy and in Precarious Condition.

Iowa Falls, Ia., Sept. 22.

Geo. Tipton, manager of Hi Henry's Minstrels, while in the city today stated that a telegram from Idaho announced that the veteran cornetist and minstrel man, Hi Henry, had sustained a stroke of apoplexy and was in a precarious condition. Henry first came into the limelight of publicity during the Centennial at Philadelphia in 1876, as a cornet soloist. At the close of the exposition he joined the Wallace Sisters Concert Co. and in 1878 organized his minstrel company, which has been wonderfully successful ever since. Mr. Henry is at his ranch in Idaho and his host of friends over the country will hope for his speedy recovery. He is past seventy years of age.—F. E. FOSTER.

BIG MINSTREL ORGANIZATION FORMED.

Kersands' Show Joins with the Dandie Dixie at Chattanooga and Combination Is Said to Be Strongest on the Road.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Sept. 22.

Billy Kersands and his wife arrived here yesterday from Cincinnati to complete the negotiations which have been pending for some time, to combine the Kersands' Minstrels with the now famous Dandie Dixie Minstrels. The latter are playing an engagement in this city to big business. Billy Kersands appeared with the Dandie Dixie show on Monday, but would not divulge the details of the agreement into which he had entered. It is widely conceded that this combination presents one of the strongest magnets of its kind now on the road. Few minstrels in this country have a wider reputation than Billy Kersands, while the Dixie show has long since established itself as one of the foremost blackface companies in the Southern states.—TURLEY.

GILMORE CLOSES CONTRACT.

Milwaukee, Wis., Sept. 23.

Georgé Gilmore has closed contracts with the Milwaukee Hippodrome management for the presentation of the Gans-Nelson fight pictures, leased from the Chicago Film Exchange Friday, Saturday and Sunday of this week. It would appear that the fight fans of the Cream City are looking forward with keen interest to the presentation of this remarkable fight film. Judge Taft speaks in Milwaukee Thursday night and he and the members of the press and the campaign managers have been invited to witness a private performance of the fight pictures. Gilmore is a hustler and has billed Milwaukee like a circus.

Clint Francis "Blows" Company.

Iowa Falls, Ia., Sept. 22.

Manager Geo. Tipton, of Hi Henry's minstrels, today stated to your correspondent that he was short his No. 1 agent and that Clint Francis had suddenly "blown" the company while at Sioux City, and it was presumed he had returned to his home in Rome, N. Y. Mr. Tipton says that while he dislikes having an agent take French leave, yet he is willing to forgive and forget if the missing agent will return the contracts, etc., of the company. Mr. Tipton instructed his No. 2 agent to take Francis' place.—F. E. FOSTER.

Shubert Sells Show Interest.

New York, Sept. 23.

It is authoritatively stated here that Lee Shubert today sold out his interest in the Henry Miller Company, in which he was a co-partner with Henry Miller and Margaret Anglin. Mr. Shubert sold his interest to Mr. Miller.

The Henry Miller Company controls "The Great Divide," "Zira" and "Brown of Harvard." It was formed when Henry Miller and Margaret Anglin returned to New York three years ago after a lengthy absence.

So far as known, Miss Anglin still retains her interest in the company.

Denver, Colo., Sept. 23.

It is rumored that C. N. Thompson, at present manager of the Buffalo Bill show, has been engaged as general superintendent of the Sells-Floto Show for next season.

MANHATTAN OPERA OPENING.

Hammerstein Announces Manhattan Opening and Gives List of Operas and Complete Roster of His Company.

Oscar Hammerstein announces that the Manhattan Opera house will open its season Nov. 9, with Mme. Lahlia as Floria Tosca, M. Renaud as Scarpa and M. Zenatello as Mario Cavaradossi, in the opera Tosca. The full repertoire will include the following operas:

In French—Salome, Thais, Pelleas et Melisande, Louise, Contes d'Hoffmann, Griseldis, Princess d'Auberge, Jongleur de Notre Dame, Manon (Massenet), Samson and Delilah, Les Pêcheurs de Perles (The Pearlfishers), Faust and Carmen.

In Italian—Othello, Falstaff, Aida, Huguenots, The North Star, Dolores, Siberia, Andrea Chener, Lucia di Lammermoor, Rigoletto, Traviata, Sonnambula, Daughter of the Regiment, Barber of Seville, La Boheme, Tosca, Madame Butterfly, Linda di Chamounix, Ballo in Maschera, Trovatore, Ernani, Crispino de la Comare, Pagliacci and Cavalleria Rusticana.

The complete list of Mr. Hammerstein's company includes the following principals:

Soprani—Mesdames Melba, Tetrzzini, Garden, Labia, Espinasse, Agostinelli, Tenderi, Trentini, Ponzano, Zepilli, Severina, Koelling and Madame Campanini.

Mezzo Soprani and Contralti—Mesdames Gerville-Reache, Dorla and Mariska Aldrich.

Tenori—MM. Zenatello, Dalmores, Tacani, Valles, Colombini, Paroli, Venturini and Montanari.

Baritoni—MM. Renaud, Sammarco, Gilbert, Dufranne, Perier, Polese and Crabbe.

Bassi—MM. Arimondi, Vieulle and De Seguraloa.

Conductors—Campanini, Parelli and Charlier.

Stage Director—M. Jacques Coinl.

Stage Managers—MM. Muzio and Engel.

Maestro de Coro: MM. Turo and Nepoli.

Premieres Danseuses—Madames Odette Velez and Anita Mannvern.

Chief of the Scenic Department—M. Dore.

There will be 150 voices in the chorus regularly, and for some operas the Philadelphia chorus will be added, making 300 in all. Subscription prices will remain the same, but box office seats will be increased for some productions.

"THE SUBWAY" IS STAGED.

Vaudeville Act of That Title to be Offered at Fifth Ave., Gives Graphic View of Underground Mode of Transport.

New York, Sept. 19.

An act of more than unusual interest to be produced at Keith & Proctor's Fifth Avenue theater this coming week, is to be presented by Violet Black and company and is entitled, The Subway. The setting is a fine reproduction of a subway station with moving trains. Miss Black is Betty Trimble, a stenographer on her way to take a new job, and is stranded in the subway, first because she has no money and also because there is a blizzard outside which prevents her walking. Arthur Forbes takes the part of Betty's new employer, Stephen Elton, and helps to bring out the humor of the situation. Eugene Keith is the rough-house ticket chopper who wont let people pass who do not drop tickets in the box. Altogether, they are said to produce excellent comedy and afford plenty of fun.

New York Notes.

Amella Bingham has come under the management of the Shuberts, and will be starred in *Feroza*, a four-act play by J. Hartley Manners. There are but nine characters in the cast. The season will open Nov. 7.

Ethel Barrymore began her season at Poughkeepsie Tuesday evening, Sept. 15, in *Lady Frederick*, a play by W. Somerset Maugham.

William Morris announces that Harry Linder will open his American engagement at Blaney's Lincoln Square theater on Monday afternoon, Oct. 12, where he will play for three weeks.

The German theater on 59th street and Madison avenue will have a production of *Der Teufel in German* during the first week in October.

Jessie Bonstelle and Julius McVicer have been engaged for the leading roles in Frederic Paulding's American play, *The Great Question*.

Henry Miller has begun rehearsals for *Mater*, the new play which he will produce at the Savoy theater, Sept. 26. Isahel Irving will have the title role and Charles A. Stevenson, for years Mrs. Carter's leading man, will play the principal male part.

E. W. Sargent, better known as "Chicot," has joined Edward E. Pidgeon's press bureau, operated in connection with William Morris' vaudeville circuit. William Faversham's enterprises and the Circle theater.

Wagner Joins Standard Staff.

Philadelphia, Sept. 15.

Fred Wagner, whose face has been familiar at The Walnut in the past, will this season be found in the box office of the Standard.

LITTLE NEMO—GIANT OF THE SPECTACULAR

Klaw and Erlanger's Musical Production Promises to Be the Most Gigantic of Modern Times—A Fortune Lavished on Scenery, Effects and Costumes.

THE SHOW WORLD is privileged to present herewith an exclusive advance review, cast of characters, synopsis and other information regarding the gigantic spectacle, *Little Nemo*, which promises to be the biggest musical comedy ever produced in America.

Little Nemo in Wonderland, which Messrs. Klaw & Erlanger will open at the Forrest theater, Philadelphia, Sept. 28, is based on Winsor McCay's famous cartoons. The book is by Harry B. Smith and the music by Victor Herbert. It is in three acts with ten scenes. Every advantage will be taken of modern stage appliances, lights and scenery to obtain wonderful effects and transformations. Herbert Gresham, general stage manager for Klaw & Erlanger, is now rehearsing the company at the New Amsterdam theater. The costumes were designed by F. Richardson Anderson.

The dream element which will run throughout the play will permit the introduction of a lot of new mechanical devices, which will make possible wonderful and beautiful scenic effects. The play opens in the playroom of the little Princess. Her guards, pages and maids of honor are all in attendance. The little Princess is bored. She wants a comrade with whom to play. King Morpheus orders his attendants to find one for her. He sends the Princess a big box of candy. When the lid is opened up pops the candy kid. Hearing of the trials of the Princess he seeks to solve her difficulties by turning the pages of her picture book that she may find a playmate. The first to appear is Flip, smoking his usual cigar. As the pages of the book are turned, the familiar characters of the fairy story appear. The king enters and joins the children with a song. A touch of rheumatism requires him to call in Dr. Pill. His medicine failing, the Dancing Missionary is summoned.

Many Gorgeous Effects.

Dr. Pill loses the wonderful elixir which keeps King Morpheus young. Only a real child can restore the charm. The little Princess asks for a playmate. By finding a boy the king will again recover his fountain of youth and the Princess be made happy. King and court start on their journey eastward. They alight in the children's playground. A May-day party enters and takes possession of the grounds. Nemo helps her out of the carriage. This is their first meeting. She becomes Queen of the May. A rainstorm spoils the picnic and Nemo falls asleep under a tree. He is taken home by a fairy policeman.

The next scene shows him in his bed with a staircase in the background leading to Slumberland. A series of the most laughable of Mr. McCay's cartoons with Flip, Doctor Pill and Gladys, the cat, as characters, are pictured. At their close, the Candy Kid leads Little Nemo up the stairs to Slumberland. The act ends with the Valentine ballet and Little Nemo marching into Slumberland, where the Princess awaits him.

The rising of the curtain on the second act reveals Little Nemo and his chums in the weather factory in the clouds. Uncle Dawn shows him how the weather is made and incidentally causes a lot of consternation for the poor mortals on earth. Nemo seeks to fly with the Princess to Slumberland, leaving Flip behind. Taking a cyclone from the safe, Flip hurls it at the ship, wrecking the boat and stranding the crew and passengers on the Table D'Hote Islands. Here first appear the woolly savages which have become such familiar figures in the McCay cartoons. The king is entertained by a minstrel troupe. As a further entertainment for their distinguished guest he is taken to an amusement park on the island. This scene will burlesque the summer parks which are now so popular. The act will close with Little Nemo's dream of Fourth of July in Slumberland.

In the last act Little Nemo again takes flight towards Slumberland on board ship. This time he arrives in safety. The king recovers his elixir and Little Nemo wins the hand of the Princess. This bare outline of the story cannot convey to the reader the surprising, the beautiful transformations and the wonderful color and mechanical effects which will be introduced.

COMPLETE PROGRAM.

Klaw & Erlanger Present

LITTLE NEMO.

Book by Harry B. Smith. Music by Victor Herbert.

Based on Winsor McCay's Cartoons. Permission N. Y. Herald.

Produced Under Stage Direction of Herbert Gresham.

Music Director, Max Herschfeld.

CAST OF CHARACTERS.

Dr. Pill.....Joseph Cawthorn

Flip.....Billy B. Van

Dancing Missionary.....Harry Kelly

Little Nemo.....Master Gabriel

King Morpheus of Slumberland; also

Cannibal King.....W. W. Black

Captain Grouch, a gentleman pirate.....

.....Louis F. Barnes

Gladys, a cat, and other animals.....

.....Dave Abrams

Blackbeard, a pirate.....Al. Lamar

Red Rover, a pirate; also Alzie, a

nervous patient.....Sim Collins

Damon Dan, a pirate; also Mr. Foote,

a gouty patient.....Louis Hart

Officer of the Guard.....Edward B. Kramer

Candy Kid.....Florence Tempest

The Little Princess.....Aimee Ehrlich

The Valentine Fairy; also Captain of

Battleship.....Albertina Benson

Weather Vane.....Elphye Snowden

Mrs. Nemo.....Rose Beaumont

Sally; also Maggie, a hysterical pa-

tient.....Madeleine Marshall

Tilly.....Mildred Manning..

Betty.....Sunshine Ijames

ANIMAL MEN.

Mr. Beattie, Ostrich; Mr. Hanlon, Pelican;

Messrs. Silbe & Wallace, Giraffes;

Mr. O'Dowd, Monkey; Mr. Baron, Lion;

Mr. Harrison, Tiger; Mr. Paul, Kangaroo.

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES.

Act. I.

Scene 1. Slumberland. Playroom of the

Little Princess.

Scene 2. Children's Playground in a

Park.

Scene 3. Nemo's Bed Room.

Scene 4. The Land of the Fairies of St.

Valentine.

Act. II.

Scene 1. Office of the Weather Fac-

tory.

Scene 2. The Table D'Hote Islands.

Scene 3. Amusement Park.

Scene 4. Little Nemo's Bed Room.

Scene 5. Palace of Patriotism in Slum-

berland.

Act. III.

Scene 1. The Deck of a Pirate Ship.

Scene 2. The Deck of a Battleship.

Scene 3. Slumberland.

SYNOPSIS OF MUSICAL NUMBERS.

Act. I.

Opening Chorus—

(a)—"Slumberland"

(b)—"I Want to Be a Naughty Lit-

tle Girl".....The Little Princess

"The Happy Land of Once-Upon-a-

Time".....Candy Kid

Entrance and Song of King Morpheus..

.....King and male chorus

"There is Nothing the Matter With Me"

Dr. Pill, King Morpheus and the Dancing

Missionary, Algie, Mr. Foote and Maggie

"Blow Upon Your Bugles".....

.....Chorus of Children in Park

"Won't You Be My Playmate?".....

The Little Princess, Little Nemo and

chorus.

Newspaper Trio.....

Dr. Pill, Flip and Dancing Missionary

Valentine Fairy Songs—

"When Cupid is a Postman"

"Won't You Be My Valentine".....

.....The Valentine Fairy and chorus

Comic Valentine Song.....

.....Principals and male chorus

March of the Valentines—

"Away We'll Float".....Entire company

Act II.

Opening Chorus—

(The Weather Factory).....

.....Weather Vane and chorus

"Weather Vane".....

Weather Vane, Barometer Girl and Flip

Chorus.....

.....Sunbeams, Snowflakes and Raindrops

The Cannibal Islands.....

.....Storm and Melodramatic Music

"Will of the Wisp".....

.....Candy Kid and Cannibal Islanders

The Barbecue.....Ensemble

"If I Could Teach My Teddy Bear to

Dance".....

Betty, Dancing Missionary and Bear

Review of Athletics (descriptive)

"I Guess I Talk Too Much".....Little Nemo

"I Wouldn't Take a Case Like That".....

.....Dr. Pill

Nemo's Dream of 4th of July and En-

trance of School Children (descriptive)

"Remember, the Old Continentals".....

.....Captain Grouch

Finale—"The Chime of the Liberty

Bell".....Entire Company

Act III.

"The Demons of the Deep".....

.....Captain Grouch and male chorus

"Is Your Face on Straight?".....

Dr. Pill, Flip and Dancing Missionary

"Give Us a Fleet".....

.....The Valentine Fairy and chorus

"Happy Slumberland".....

"Little Nemo, Candy Kid, Little Princess,

Weather Vane, Captain of the

Battleship, Sally and Betty.

Finale.....Entire Company

GUS EDWARDS' SCHOOL DAYS.

A Lively Concoction of Music, Song and Pretty Choristers, and Broadway Likes It.

New York, Sept. 17.

Gus Edwards' vaudeville sketch amplified to a three-act musical play, was produced for the first time in New York at the New Circle theater last Monday. The house was packed with an enthusiastic audience which made things lively. The book of the play was written by Aaron Hoffman and the music is by Gus Edwards. Ed Gardsnier and Vincent Bryan wrote the lyrics, and Ned Weyman staged the production. There are more than forty persons in the cast, and most of them belong to the broiler and squab class. They were a lively, mercurial bunch of performers, and there was no time that the piece had a chance to lag. Milfred Berrick as Biff Dugan, Jeanette Priest as Nonnie, Joe Keno and Agnes Lynn, acrobats in vaudeville, Herman Timberg as Izzy Levi, and Gregory Kelly as Johnny Boston Beans, made the individual hits. There were several songs that were catchy. The general opinion is that the piece will get by.

NEW SKIT PRODUCED.

When the Butler Came, Written by Houston Newspaper Man, Well Received at Initial Performance.

Houston, Texas, Sept. 16.

A large audience gathered at Bryan Hall on Monday night to witness the initial performance of *When the Butler Came*, a one-act sketch by Harry Van Demark, a well-known Houston newspaperman. The sketch was very well interpreted by the local Cosmos Dramatic Club, the cast being headed by a clever comedian, Fred Dorrance. Mr. Van Demark has received two offers for the sketch from professional parties, and it is probable that the little playlet will be seen over several of the vaudeville circuits this season.—FRANKEL.

Actor's Society Notes.

New York, Sept. 18.

Edwards Davis opened yesterday at the Fifth Avenue theater in his latest one-act tragic play, *All Rivers Meet at Sea*. Mr. Davis appeared in his former vehicle, *The Unmasking*, more than 1,000 times. That record established the fact of the popularity of tragedy in vaudeville.

The success of this author-actor is in some respects due to the splendid and painstaking manner in which his productions are put on. Mr. Davis is an enthusiastic member of the Society.

Wm. H. Dupont is rehearsing with Mary Hampton, who is to present a sketch in vaudeville.

Adele Blood has opened her season in vaudeville, appearing this week in *All Rivers Meet at Sea*, at the Fifth Avenue theater.

Elizabeth Tracey has signed with the Kirke LaShelle company for the Ingene role in the *Virginian*.

Frank Battin is to open in *Reading* Pa., in vaudeville with Harry Tighe.

Joseph Callahan has been engaging people for several companies of *The Devil*. He secured the following this week: Ethel Vande Veer, Wm. Babb, Retta Spelly, Florence S. Hastings,

George L. Stout, Lynette Ford, Marguerite Lee, Alice McCall and Harry Pearson. Mr. Callahan is to play the part of the Devil in one of the companies. Harry Pearson is assisting Mr. Callahan in staging the production.

McKee Rankin has engaged Sam Hardy, James Leahy, and Herbert Fortier for Sydney Drew's new play, *Agnes*, in which Nance O'Neill is to star this season.

Helen Davenport will portray the part of an adventures with Junie McCree in his sketch, *The Dope Fiend*.

Ashley Miller opens his season with Jessie Bonstelle company this week.

Frank Darieh has been engaged to play Adam Payne with Charles Grapewin and Anne Chance in the *Awakening* of Mr. Pipp.

Benjamin Chapin has closed with Arthur Coglicor. Mr. Coglicor is to play the part of Lincoln in *Lincoln in the White House*.

Bernard Randell has been engaged by Frank Tannehill for his new sketch in vaudeville.

Ralph Newman opened last week with Schneider and Ferrandini, in their new transformation act which will be seen in New York later in the season. It promises to be a decided novelty in vaudeville.

Maxfield Moore has joined Emmet Corrigan and will play the part of a young actor in Mr. Corrigan's sketch *His Last Performance*. Chas. B. Hawkins and George Nelson Price have been engaged for the same sketch.

The following managers engaged people through the society last week: Henry W. Savage, Maurice Campbell, Benjamin Chapin, W. G. Smythe, Jos. Callahan, Currie and Gray, Klaw and Erlanger, Fred Gare and Edward Blondell.

The next regular meeting of the society will be held Sunday evening, October 4th.

The following managers made engagements through the society this week: Henry W. Savage, Sidney Drew, Alfred Arons, William J. Block, Joseph M. Gaites, George H. Brennan, John C. Williams, A. Brady, Frank McKee, Junie McCree, and Klaw & Erlanger.

BUSBY RAILROADED BY ALABAMA COURT

Former Birmingham Agent for the Kleine Optical Company Pleaded Guilty to Theft of Ten Dollars is Quickly Sentenced to Six Months' Hard Labor—A Warning to Others.

At Birmingham, Ala., on Wednesday, Sept. 16, 1908, Frank M. Busby, formerly of Chicago, Ill., and more recently the manager of the Birmingham branch office of the Kleine Optical Co., was sentenced on a plea of guilty to the larceny of ten dollars from the Kleine Optical Co., in Alabama to serve six months at hard labor for the county of Jefferson and state of Alabama and to pay the costs of the prosecution.

While this item of information may be of only passing interest to the moving picture trade, it is worthy of note here not only because it is the first serious effort made at prosecution of one of those who have been dishonest and disloyal to the film manufacturers and dealers who have employed them, but because of the persistent and one might say spectacular manner in which this prosecution was effected.

Klein Sends Secretary.

Noticing that something was irregular in the Birmingham office, Mr. George Klein, president of the company, sent his confidential secretary from the Chicago office to Birmingham to make investigation. Arriving there on the 31st day of August, it was found that Busby had departed for Chicago by way of Cincinnati. The secretary immediately wired the Chicago office, procured a warrant for his arrest, and had the Birmingham authorities wire the Chicago police department to apprehend Busby. This they did, taking him from a sleeping car berth, headed for Cincinnati, at 11:30 p. m., Aug. 31, the arrest being made by Officer Moran, of the Harrison Street station.

Colonel E. L. Higdon, sheriff of Jefferson county, in which county Birmingham is situated, with the assistance and cooperation of Sterling A. Wood, the Birmingham attorney of the Kleine Optical Co., and a leading member of the bar in the South, immediately made requisition on the Governor of Alabama to issue extradition papers, addressed to the Governor of Illinois, for the return of Busby for trial. These papers were forwarded at once and Deputy Sheriff Geo. W. Courson, of Birmingham, presented himself to the Chicago police department on Friday, Sept. 4, and asked for the custody of Busby. He, in the meantime, had been held at the Harrison Street police station and the Cook County jail in Chicago in bail to the amount of \$2,500. On Saturday evening, the officer and prisoner started back to Birmingham to face trial. At the same time, Mr. George Klein, Mr. Douglas H. Bergh, a confidential agent of the Kleine Optical Co., and Mr. John A. Verhoeven, its Chicago attorney, started southward to be personally on the ground and attend to the prosecution of the prisoner. They arrived Sunday afternoon, the prisoner being immediately remanded to the Jefferson County jail, and the complainants went into conference with Mr. Sterling A. Wood and the secretary of the Kleine Optical Co., and so arranged matters as to have the evidence presented to the grand jury on Tuesday morning, Sept. 8, the grand jury being in charge of F. B. Daniel, foreman.

A True Bill Returned.

On Monday, Sept. 14, at its first report, a true bill was returned against Busby for the theft of ten dollars by the grand jury and on Wednesday, the 16th inst., before Judge Weaver, sitting in Branch 1, of the Criminal court, Frank M. Busby (who had previously made a complete confession to the Kleine Optical Co.) entered a plea of guilty and was sentenced as above.

Representing the state at the trial were Hon. H. P. Heflin, solicitor for Jefferson county, and the Hon. John McQueen, his assistant, and Messrs. Wood, of Birmingham, and Verhoeven, of Chicago, for the Kleine Optical Co. Mr. Klein and Mr. Verhoeven remained in Birmingham until the matter of the prosecution had been concluded, and Mr. Bergh remains in charge of the office at Birmingham.

Motive Not Personal.

In discussing this case, Mr. Klein said that his motive in prosecuting was not a personal one, but that in view of the repeated thefts from various firms of films and money which have come to his notice during the past few years it was high time that a prosecution be instituted and carried to a conclusion. In order to emphasize the fact that stealing is a serious matter, the smallest single amount that had been embezzled was selected. The penalty of six months at hard labor for the theft of \$10.00 will doubtless be a sufficient warning to others that may be tempted; and the rapidity with which the charge was handled calls for a tribute to the inexorable working of justice in the state of Alabama. It is almost a record breaking case to seize a fugitive, extradite him, have a grand jury indict him, the court try and sentence him, all within sixteen days. This prosecution involved the loss of a great deal of valuable time and considerable expense, but it was a duty which could not be shirked.

Mr. Klein expressed himself as deeply appreciative of the courtesies accorded

himself, as well as the attorneys and employees of the Kleine Optical Co., by the authorities in Birmingham, and stated that never before had he met with so strong a sentiment in favor of abstract right and justice as in Birmingham. Apart from the unfortunate cause of the trip, the proverbial hospitality of the South was exemplified in a way that will not soon be forgotten.

JOLIET HAS NEW MANAGER.

Wallie Brooks to Direct Musical Comedy Stock Company—Was Formerly Connected With Drury Lane Theater.

Joliet, Ill., Sept. 23. Wallie Brooks, formerly connected with the Drury Lane theater, London, as director of dancing for nearly ten years, has taken charge of the musical comedy stock company at the Grand theater, which presented The Little Widow Sunday night.

Brooks was formerly manager of the Unique theater, Winnipeg, where he installed the Wallie Brooks Musical Attraction company. Laura Roth is the prima donna of the local company.

HIPPODROME PLANS BIG ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN

Obtains Four Circus Cars Which Will Spread Lithos Throughout the Country—Experiment Unique.

New York, Sept. 22. Messrs. Shubert & Anderson have planned an all-over-the-country advertising campaign for the Hippodrome, which will probably be the most extensive ever done by any amusement enterprise. They have just leased from the Ringling Brothers Circus and the Barnum & Bailey Show, four of their large advertising cars used in advance of the shows. These cars are now in the West and South, and in a few weeks will be sent to winter quarters. Instead of sending the cars directly in, the Hippodrome management will stock each with thousands of sheets of printing and billing for the big playhouse and its new productions. A crew of eight bill posters will be carried on each car. Railroad arrangements are being made

to route these cars through with stops at every city, town and village in the country. Two of the Barnum & Bailey cars are now at San Francisco. One of these will take the northern route through to its destination at winter quarters at Bridgeport, while the other will go over the southern route, through Texas, the Gulf states and up the Atlantic coast. The cars of the Ringling circus will cover the middle west. In this way Messrs. Shubert & Anderson, following the circus method of billing, will cover the entire country with Hippodrome billing. Over 500,000 pieces of paper have been ordered to stock the various cars. John Ringling, who is now with the Barnum Show, will start the cars from the coast.—WELLS HAWKS.

WHITE RATS IN POLITICS

Mountford Says League Plans to Correct Alleged Evils in Existing Employment Agency Laws.

New York, Sept. 17. Harry Mountford, secretary of the White Rats, is enthusiastic over the prospects of the organization developing strength in the political field. He says that there are some three thousand votes that can be rounded up for purposes of making a showing and that that number ought to be sufficient to obtain something in the way of legislation.

"We are interested in the question of legislation already," he told THE SHOW WORLD representative today, "and this movement ought to help us get it through. We will have something in the way of an amendment to the employment agency law to present at the next session of the legislatures of New York and Illinois. The present law is very loosely drawn in both states. The Illinois law is worse than that of New York. There is no good reason why an artist should be compelled to pay commissions to three different people, yet that is what most of them have to do to get an engagement. We may be able to remedy this by having the law amended. It will be worth trying for."

"The thing to do is to get together and show our strength, then the politicians may take notice of us and help us get what we want."

Chorus Girl, Stranded, Abandons Stage.

Webster City, Ia., Sept. 19. Though the entreaties of a fond and loving brother at a time when all seemed prosperous failed to induce handsome little Margarie Lyle, chorus girl with the former Yankee Regent company, to return to her rural Illinois home, a sudden turn of adversity—stranded in Fort Dodge penniless—proved so convincing an argument that the sister consented to accompany her big brother from the farm home.

The brother met the girl when the company was here, but she refused to ac-

DOROTHY ROY WINS SUIT OVER MANAGER

Court Decides Albert Hogge is Guilty of Charges and Gives Chorus Girl Verdict of One Thousand Dollars.

Des Moines, Iowa, Sept. 22.

Miss Dorothy Roy, aged 18 years, and as pretty as a picture, has been given a judgment for \$1,000 in Judge Miller's court against Albert Hogge, manager of the Sam T. Jacks Burlesque company. She made a showing that Hogge had made improper proposals to her, assaulted her and slandered her before the members of the company.

Miss Roy ran away from her home in Philadelphia during a fit of stage fever. At New York she joined the Sam T. Jacks company as chorus girl—that being the first offer made her. While the company was in Des Moines she and Hogge had the final quarrel of a series that started a few days after she joined the company. She left the aggregation there and had Hogge hauled into police court for making improper proposals to her. The manager smilingly pleaded guilty and was fined \$5. Then the girl turned around and brought a civil action for damages, introducing Hogge's plea in police court as proof. The people of Des Moines became aroused in her behalf, and Attorney W. M. McLaughlin of the Northwestern's force of lawyers, took up the girl's case free of charge. A suit for \$5,000 was

filed. Hogge did not appear and judgment was given for \$1,000.

Miss Roy is now employed in a Des Moines department store. Her mother does not know where she is. She declares she has seen all of the stage she desires, and will never again return to the footlights.—GEO. C. TUCKER.

Webster City (Ia.) Notes.

Webster City, Ia., Sept. 22.

Martin & Emery's production of Parsifal in drama, 19th inst., pleased a good house. Ralph Evans Smith as Parsifal, Miss Winnifred Burke as Kundry, Mr. Kelvin as Klingsor, and Mr. Pascal as Dwyer, drew much applause. Company carries more special scenery than has been seen in this city this season.

Hi Henry's Minstrels, 21, to large house.

Mr. Spawford, advance man for The Yankee Doodle Boy, states that the theatrical business of all companies in Iowa thus far this season has been very poor. It has been the warmest September experienced here in twenty years—so warm, in fact, that it has been uncomfortable to be indoors. Day for day, September has been the hottest month of the summer.

Sunday a man registered at the Hotel Long as D. F. Miles, agent No. 1 for the Don't Tell My Wife company. He was given a room and soon began acting queerly. He would eat nothing, though he was there a day and a half. He soon became violent, tied the bed clothing and curtains into knots, and screamed and groaned continuously. He was taken to Rockwell City before the commissioners of insanity. Whether the man is really a theatrical advance man is not known.—GEO. C. TUCKER.

Attractions Do Well at Birmingham.

Birmingham, Ala., Sept. 19.

Author Beauvais & Co. have proved to be a great drawing card this week at the Majestic theater.

The theatergoers of Birmingham will have their first opportunity of seeing The Devil next week. The Baldwin-Melville company will be back in Birmingham, and the public will probably give them a warm welcome. This company played here all of the summer season, and to see them in such a play as The Devil, will be a pleasure to the people of Birmingham. They will also play At Piney Ridge, and In The Bishops Carriage in addition to The Devil. This week Buelah Poynter is drawing very large crowds at the Bijou.

The Jefferson theater has Forty-Five Minutes From Broadway to good business.

At the Gaiety the Greater New York Stars have maintained the usual crowds this week.

The Air Dome theater has been putting on some very good acts in the past few weeks and plays to crowded houses all the time. The feature act this week is the Three Lilliputians, late of Barnum & Bailey's museum.

The Alamo still has good shows and good crowds.—AUSTIN.

Friars to Dine Giants.

New York, Sept. 17.

The Board of Governors of The Friars have decided to give a complimentary dinner to the New York National League base ball team, the Giants, on Sunday evening, Oct. 4. The dinner will be at the Hotel Astor, after which an informal reception will be held at the club house in 45th street. The dinner committee appointed to take charge of this affair is composed of the following members: Chairman, S. Goodfriend, Ben F. Stevens, W. W. Aulic, G. M. Bagley, William Watkins, Glenmore Davis, E. E. Pidgeon, Edward Rosenbloom, Sr., John W. Rumsey, and the Frail Abbot, Charles E. Cook.

Bob Martin Lost All.

Iowa Falls, Ia., Sept. 18.

The sympathy of the amusement world goes out to Bob Martin, the veteran showman, who lost his all by the failure of the Yankee Regent Co., at Fort Dodge, where the company stranded after four weeks of an unsuccessful tour in Iowa. Mr. Martin's home is in La Crosse, and he put his home, valued at \$6,000, into this venture, in hopes of recuperating his fortunes. But the enterprise failed, and in his old age he is left to commence life over again. Mr. Martin has been with many attractions and is well known over the West.—F. E. FOSTER.

To Direct Wolf Stock Company.

Wichita, Kan., Sept. 23.

Tom B. Loftus has left here to be manager and stake director of the Wolf Stock company, at Joplin. His wife, Meta Marsky, will be leading woman in the company. Mr. and Mrs. Loftus recently returned from a trip to Los Angeles, Mrs. Loftus' old home.

To Stop Sunday Shows.

Iowa Falls, Ia., Sept. 17.

The Ministerial Association at Des Moines has taken the initial steps in seeking to induce the next legislature to pass a Sunday bill prohibiting all kinds of amusement on the Seventh Day, as well as base ball. This association will work in conjunction with a state committee which will maintain a strong lobby during the next legislative session in hopes of putting the lid on in this state.—F. E. FOSTER.

Police to Have Press Agent.

Iowa Falls, Ia., Sept. 17.

The "press agent" microbe has inoculated the new commission plan of municipal government at Des Moines, and the police department of that city will have a publicity department in the future. Superintendent Hamery of the department of public safety has hit upon a novel scheme to aid the newspapers in securing news of the department. He has appointed a press agent. It has been said of Mr. Hamery that he intends to keep ahead of the times. This undoubtedly is the first press agent to be appointed by any police department in the United States.—F. E. FOSTER.

Mr. Robert McWade, Jr., who has just returned from a season with the Sherman Brown Stock company, of Milwaukee, has been engaged by Liebler & Co., for Blue Grass.

THE SHOW WORLD

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NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.

The Last Advertising Forms Close
Wednesday at Noon.

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All remittances to THE SHOW WORLD should be made by Postoffice or Express made payable to THE SHOW WORLD PUBLISHING COMPANY.

The Editor will not be responsible for the return of unsolicited manuscripts, but if stamps are inclosed they will be returned to correspondents if found unavailable.

All communications to the Editorial or Business departments should be addressed to THE SHOW WORLD PUBLISHING CO.



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1908.

NEW CORPORATIONS.

New York.

British Amusement Company, Buffalo, Erie County; capital, \$50,000. Directors: Frank G. Moller, 20 Anderson place; Douglas Cornell, The Colonial; Robert H. MacBroom, 98 Erie County Bank Building, Buffalo, N. Y.

Harper Amusement Company, New York; capital, \$500. Directors: David Elliott Tobias, 50 West Twenty-ninth street; Nicholas S. Feldman and Ida Feldman, 159 East Ninety-fifth street, New York.

Kansas.

The Kansas Amusement Company of Topeka, a \$5,000 corporation, has been chartered. The incorporators are: L. J. Murdock of Chicago, W. W. Hooper of Leavenworth, and H. A. Miller, M. L. Miller, and L. M. Miller of Topeka. This company will, it is presumed, have charge of the Novelty theater.

Iowa.

The Comet Amusement Company and its general place of business is Red Oak, Iowa. The general nature of the business to be transacted is, buying, selling, leasing, renting, managing, controlling and operating theaters, vaudeville shows, picture and moving picture shows and other public shows and entertainments and amusements, and buying and easing of all necessary material and apparatus and other property to be used in connection with said business. The amount of capital stock authorized is twenty thousand dollars.

A. A. C. OF A. SOUVENIR.

One of the best examples of the modern printers' art which has reached this desk in some time, is the souvenir booklet showing the officers of the advertising clubs of America, who gathered at the fourth annual convention at Kansas City, recently. Not only is its historical value of the highest moment to those directly concerned, but it is a volume of wordless praise upon the work of its printers, the Barnes-Crosby Company, of which E. W. Houser is president and treasurer. From a psychological standpoint the numerous excellent half tone engravings, of the men foremost in the advertising business, offer a study to the student, containing a vital warning that brains and energy alone are the great counters in this big game of introduction and friendship to and with the public by way of the printers' ink.



I have always contended that its geographical location and facilities made Chicago the logical center for amusement productions, and I believe the time is not far distant when it will be recognized as such. Certain it is that it is rapidly becoming the FILM center of America, due in a great measure to the efforts of W. N. Selig, president of the Selig Polyscope Co., the excellence of whose product has claimed international attention.

Mr. Selig is a pioneer in the business, and his marked success is attributable to the untiring energy and enthusiasm he has displayed. It was not so long since it was generally conceded that foreign films embodied the highest photographic excellence, but it is gratifying to note that American manufacturers have bridged the gap in the race of supremacy, and have solved the secret of steadiness and tone in moving pictures, and more than gratifying that a Chicagoan should have won such honors in the field.

The plant of the Selig Polyscope Co. is located at Western avenue, Irving Park boulevard, Claremont avenue and Byron street, the buildings occupying two solid blocks at present, and Mr. Selig contemplates erecting additional structures to cover the entire ground.

The pictures of the Gans-Nelson fight, on Sept. 9, taken for the Chicago Film Exchange, are a striking illustration of the capabilities of the Selig Polyscope Co. The undertaking was a tremendous one, upon the success of which depended large amounts of money, and all of this was done, of course, without rehearsal.

The pictures clearly depict the full twenty-one rounds of this memorable encounter so vividly that every move of the fighters and the facial expressions of the thousands at the ringside can plainly be seen.

Motography Here to Stay.

Regarding the present condition of the film business Mr. Selig said:

"Motography has become firmly established with the public, and with the improvement in the quality of the films has evolved from a novelty into a channel of desirable entertainment.

"In order to produce a perfect film it is necessary to devote as much care to the details as to the staging of a play.

"Our experience has been that it is a difficult matter to secure a perfect picture in a highway or in the woods. Appropriate settings must be made in a large studio, without danger of outside interference, and where the distances are known to our operators so that proper focus can be made.

"It is not uncommon for us to have two hundred people engaged in making a film, including the actors and employees, and we have unlimited facilities for staging any kind of a production.

"As in the manufacture of any product, quality is expensive, and the cost of a feature film is considerable. I believe it is the desire of all manufacturers, as it is of the Selig Polyscope Co., to produce all feature films, and this is possible only where the manufacturers have the co-operation of the rest of the trade.

"For example, in order to make a profit on a film subject it is necessary that the manufacturer sell a number of prints. A high class play will sometimes have a run of two hundred performances, at high prices, but under present conditions in the film business a feature film is only exhibited one or two days in one place.

"This results in a subject being considered old before it has really had a chance to establish itself, and the exhibitor will refuse it, and many times will take on an inferior subject just because it is a late one."

I asked Mr. Selig if he could assign a reason for this inconsistency, and if, in his opinion, patrons of moving picture theaters demanded such frequent changes. He said:

Evil of Keen Competition.

"This condition of affairs is not brought about by the demands of the public, but rather by the feverish desire on the part of the exhibitors and the film exchanges to put their competitors out of business. The exhibitors, instead of giving an excellent subject the run it deserves, clamor for frequent changes, endeavoring to overwhelm their rivals with an immense variety. The film exchanges in turn unthinkingly meet the demands of the exhibitors, and in a price cutting contest, in which the winner loses, supply their customers at impossible rates.

"A film exchange adopting such tactics will soon find itself in hard straits, and, its revenues being less than its expenditures, it will eventually be unable to buy film, and its customers will slip away. The exhibitor is finding out that his patrons want good subjects, and that one opening a first class moving picture theater and projecting high class films is bound to make money. As this demand grows so will the pictures improve.

"I believe if we all endeavor to co-operate with each other that the coming year will be the most prosperous in the history of moving pictures. If the exhibitor would spend more time to studying the demands of his patrons, and watching the effect of the various films he uses and their drawing power, and governing himself accordingly will order such subjects as attract patronage and give them a fair run; and if the rental exchanges will endeavor to educate the exhibitors in this direction, you will find the manufacturer more than willing to spend his money to produce fine subjects, feeling secure in the fact that he is being backed by the entire trade."

In regard to the trend of the subjects Mr. Selig said:

Good Subjects Spell Success.

"We have found that the most successful theaters are those that project good subjects. The public has been satiated with silly pictures, and has turned to higher things. It is true that the cost of producing a picture taken in a public street, involving an endless 'chase,' is nominal. On the other hand, a subject especially staged in a large studio, with trained actors in appropriate and costly costumes, and an army of efficient help, with special attention paid to technique and detail, is necessarily expensive, and the only way the manufacturer can make a profit is to secure a suitable market for the film."

It is a peculiar fact that the same condition arose in Europe, last year, and Pathe Freres withdrew their films from the general markets of France and Switzerland, renting their product themselves. At the meeting of the Film Service Association, at the Grand Pacific hotel, Chicago, in December, 1907, J. A. Berst, general American manager for Pathe, stated the reason for this action, as follows:

"The moving picture business was beginning to deteriorate, owing to the worn-out films kept in use. We asked all our customers to stop showing poor films, as we never could make a success of the business with them. Not meeting with any support we decided that if they would not show better films we would do it ourselves.

"For this reason I am glad to see the association formed, as it will obviate the necessity of the manufacturers taking a like step in this country."

The condition at present existing in America has left millions of feet of film on the hands of Pathe, and in order to dispose of same they decided to go into the rental business. Owing to the tremendous pressure exerted by the Film Service Association, however, this was abandoned.

If exhibitors continue to demand an unreasonable number of changes at impossible prices, and the exchanges supply same, it will result in the demoralization of the industry, and the continued use of worn-out film, which will bring about a crisis similar to that which occurred in Europe, which the manufacturers will have to face.

BIG PREPARATIONS FOR BENEFIT

B. E. Wallace Takes Personal Interest in Forthcoming Engagement and Promises Augmented Show.

Director General B. E. Wallace, of the Hagenbeck-Wallace Shows, is determined to make the Chicago engagement a memorable one in every way, in part of which the big show performance will be accentuated through the addition of a number of novelty and sensational acts. W. N. Merrick's concert band is to be increased to 75 pieces. The advance brigades have covered the billboards of Chicago in a liberal manner. The Chicago billing includes a special paper showing the International Amphitheater, the likeness of Fire Marshal James Horan and fire apparatus in action, from the presses of the Morgan Lithograph Company, of Cleveland, O. It is a matter of record that the Hagenbeck-Wallace management is to receive the largest guarantee ever paid to an amusement organization in Chicago, for the two weeks' benefit in aid of the widows and orphans of the Firemen's Benevolent Association. The advance sale of tickets is said to have reached over \$100,000, and from present indications it would appear that the big amphitheater will be filled to capacity at every performance. The Hagenbeck-Wallace show will close in Chicago October 18.

Ban on Vaughn Play.

Iowa Falls, Ia., Sept. 22.

Special to THE SHOW WORLD: Friends in this city, as well as in many cities and towns over the west, where Rev. Father Lawrence J. Vaughn has appeared on his lecturing tours, are deeply interested in the ban placed on his play, "The Woman of the West," by the Bishop of Wisconsin.

For the first time in any play a mass scene is presented in Father Vaughn's production. It is a scene which climaxes the third act and in it the high mass of the Catholic church is said on the stage by the actors. The objection is only to this part of the production, and he believes its presentation on a secular stage tends towards irreverence. Father Vaughn, who is himself a minister in the church, takes exception to the bishop's position and says there is nothing wrong in the production of the mass scene, that it is not irreverent, and that the entire effect of the play, and especially of the third act, is to uplift. For that reason he believes the production of the play, including the mass scene, should be permitted in Catholic halls. Father Vaughn was for many years an actor in a stock company, and has exceptional histrionic ability.—F. E. FOSTER.

Erie (Pa.) Notes.

Erie, Sept. 22.

The theater season is in full blast here. Majestic, Park and the Alpha are all working and one would imagine that the money was not scarce from the attendance at each performance and the several moving picture shows are doing a capacity business.

Subscriptions are out to bring the great Calve here for a concert.—HANLEY.

NEWS NOTES

Everybody in Who's Who in show circles in Chicago this week got around to the professional matinee of The New Generation at the Grand Opera House. It would appear from the spontaneous outbursts of applause that stage folks were greatly impressed with Louis Mann's first attempt at serious drama. In the audience were noted George Cohan, Mabel Taliaferro, Henry Dixey, Lew Fields, Cecil Lean and Florence Holbrook.

Ben Field is playing the part of the page boy in The Servant in the House. The role has been played by Gaway Herberst. Field, who is an Englishman, has been with Julia Marlowe in The Lancers, which recently failed.

Gladys Cardwell, a Chicago girl, who made her debut in grand opera last winter, has been engaged to sing small parts with the International Company. Her sister Marie will be in the chorus.

Victor Herbert, composer of Fritz Scheff's new opera, The Prima Donna, is in Chicago for the rehearsal of that play at the Studebaker next week.

Mary Garden, the opera singer, according to a report from Paris, is to marry Prince Mavrocordato, a Russian, who has a fortune of \$5,000,000. She is now singing in Paris. Miss Garden is a Chicago girl, or at least she came here as a girl and was educated here. The late George Pullman was greatly interested in her and helped her to complete her musical education.

Fred Bailey, of Bailey & Austin, of The Top 'O Th' World, can shake up his family's genealogy and produce a cousin that is a real live member of the British nobility. Not the kind that goes gunning for a rich American girl, but a man that would be the real fellow in America. He is Sir Alfred Hamsworth, the eminent British journalist, who recently acquired the London Times.

Al Hagen has been appointed manager of the People's theater at Cedar Rapids, Ia.

One of the members of the Trio is ill, but will open on the Western Vaudeville time Oct. 5.

NEWS OF THE FAIRS

AK-SAR-BEN READY FOR FAIR.

Big Program Arranged and All Are Praying for Fine Weather to Insure Success.

Omaha, Neb., Sept. 22.

Everything that man could do has been done for the preparation of the great Ak-Sar-Ben Fall Festivities and Carnival. Every inch of space in the three blocks square enclosure has been snapped up, which spells success for Ak-Sar-Ben, and money for the shows. If old J. Pluvius and his sprinkling cart will please rous mit em for a while. The electric parade is on the night of Sept. 30, and 100,000 visitors are expected here. The carnival lasts from Sept. 23 to Oct. 3. Big free attractions are Mamie Francis and her High Diving Horses, Serpentine and Lurline, direct descendants, she claims, from King and Queen, the famous and original high diving horses. She makes a leap of 60 feet into a tank of 20 feet. Balloon races every day. The Bayersdorfer-Yeager airship, an Omaha product, is the big free hawk. California Frank's Wild West, Sullivan's Big Animal Show, The Red Mill, Dancing Horse Columbus, and fifty other attractions will line the King's Highway and cater to the amusement of the throngs.

Brewster's Millions, at the Boyd, is the Ak-Sar-Ben week attraction. Miss Marie Cach, an Omaha girl, is with the company playing the Athletic Girl part.

The Orpheum is putting up a fine array of talent. Good houses are the profits. Manager Byrne, "newly-made," is acquiring himself handsomely.

Old John L. Sullivan and Jake Kilrain will give sparring exhibitions four times a day at the Ak-Sar-Ben grounds.—SMYTH.

Blair County, Pa.

Altoona, Pa., Sept. 21.

The Blair County Grange Fair to be held here Sept. 29 and 30 and Oct. 1 and 2, promises to be the largest ever held in this county. Strobel's air-ship will make two ascensions daily and on Wednesday Governor Stuart has promised to be present and make an address. Among the other attractions will be a minstrel show as well as all the old time fair attractions.—WESTEROOK.

Central Canada Fair.

Ottawa, Can., Sept. 20.

The Central Canada Fair, which is the second largest in Canada, is having as special vaudeville attractions in front of the grand stand Arthur C. Holden, high dive and looping the death trap, Charles Ahern troupe of Cyclists; Melle Olympia Desvall, trained dogs and horses; Monte-Myro troupe of trick tumbler; LaNole Bros., comedy gymnasts; Delmore and Oneida, equilibrists; and The Great Nelson, high wire walker, are the attractions. Large crowds are in the city and every train brings more visitors from the surrounding cities and towns, and everything bids fair for a big weeks' business. Many picture shows are already installed on the grounds.—W. J. DAVIDSON, JR.

Knox County Fair.

Vincennes, Ind., Sept. 19.

The Knox County Fair closed yesterday. It was the most successful in its history. The attendance passed all expectations, and notwithstanding the long drought the proceeds have been larger than for several years. The chief attractions were the high diving of the Norins and of the famous horses, King and Queen.—FRANK W. BELL.

Essex County, N. J., Fair.

Newark, N. J., Sept. 22.

The Essex County Fair will take place Oct. 10-19. As nearly all the other fairs will be over with, this exhibition will gather in the larger attractions—displays and novelties that go to make a fair a grand success.—JOE O'BRYAN.

Fair Building Collapses.

Winston-Salem, N. C., Sept. 20.

The general exhibit hall at the Piedmont Fair Grounds in the suburbs of the city, which was being rushed to completion, collapsed Thursday night, killing one man and injuring five. The building was a two-story affair, and would have been completed in a few days. It is a wreck now.

The Fair Association let a contract the following day for the erection of a temporary building and the fair scheduled for Oct. 6, 7, 8 and 9, will go on undisturbed.—C. H. GRAINGER.

Puyallup Fair.

The annual Puyallup Fair, at Tacoma, Wash., is scheduled to be held Oct. 6 to 11. Special days have not as yet been designated.—F. KIRBY HASKELL.

Saunders County Fair.

The Saunders county fair, which will be held at Wahoo, Neb., from Sept. 30 to Oct. 2, promises to be one of the best in the county's history, there being an increase of premiums for exhibits.

Notes of Fair Folk.

J. Schuyler Clark, writing to THE SHOW WORLD from his country home at Eagle, Wis., Sept. 21, says:

"I attended the Elkhorn County Fair

Thursday, where I met Tom Rankins handling George ("Pop") Hall's Country Circus, which was the biggest and best attraction on the grounds. At 4 p. m. they were giving their ninth complete show to a packed house.

"Their arrangement struck me as being very unique, having a regular line of side show paintings representing their menagerie, particularly emphasizing their special features, such as the largest elephant on earth, five legged cow, big snake, etc. You can readily imagine that a real nineteen-act circus made a hit."

Mr. Clark and his wife will leave Eagle next week, and after spending a few hours in Chicago will proceed to Southern California, for the fall and winter months.

Secretary F. L. Wirick has been forced to resign his position with the Inter-State Fair Association at Sioux City, because of poor health. Six years ago, when the association was reorganized, Mr. Wirick became the secretary and much of the success in the past has been due to his untiring efforts. His successor has not been announced.

E. W. McConnell, who enjoys an international reputation as a promoter of amusement enterprises, contemplates leaving Chicago for Seattle some time during the coming week to close arrangements for the erection of a Monitor and Merrimac exhibition at the forthcoming exposition.

Mr. McConnell has met with great success with this attraction at Riverview park, Chicago, every performance playing to capacity, notwithstanding high admission price, and the fact that the show did not open until June 26, five weeks after the inauguration of the Riverview season.

Upon Mr. McConnell's return from Seattle he will commence active construction operations on Creation, which is to be a feature at Riverview next season.

The Monitor and Merrimac will continue for another year at Riverview, when it will make way for "New York to the North Pole," which will be produced by Mr. McConnell in the same building.

NEW THEATRES

Erie, Pa.

Erie, Pa., is to have a new theater. A. H. Knoll, a well known cornetist, is going to erect a high class vaudeville theater on his property on 18th St., between State and Peach. The contract has been settled with the Vulcan Construction Co., of St. Louis. The plans call for a three-story building and the theater will seat 1500, 700 on the first floor, 500 in the balcony, 300 in the gallery. There will also be two store rooms, 12 office rooms and a lodge room on the third floor. The ground will be broken by Oct. 1.—D. S. HAULEY.

Mt. Carmel, Ill.

The New Cowling theater at this place, managed by Frank J. Cowling, has been newly remodeled and opens the season Tuesday night, Sept. 22, with the drama As You Like It, with Miss May Stewart as Rosalind. Manager Cowling has engaged quite a number of the best shows on the road for the season.—ESTHER JACKSON.

Mattoon, Ill.

The new Majestic theater at Mattoon, Ill., is now open for the season. Mattoon is the home of the Big Four shops, also several large factories, all of which are working full force. Mattoon has always needed a first class theater run by experienced theatrical people.

Cedar Rapids, Ia.

The new Majestic vaudeville house, built by the Majestic Theater Co., for Victor Hugo (who by the way has inculcated some very clever ideas in this modern play house) is to be opened Sept. 28. Mr. Hugo has secured for the opening night, and first week, some very high priced acts, and intends to sell seats for the first floor at \$1.00 a piece to first nighters. The regular scale of prices will be 10, 20, 30 and 50c. This house with the Peoples theater gives Hugo two vaudeville houses in Cedar Rapids.—H. L. BLOCK.

St. Louis.

The Columbia theater, resplendent in its newness, opened with a pleasing vaudeville bill on Monday, Sept. 21. Frank Tate, chief of the Columbia, originally intended to spend \$35,000 improving and remodeling the house, but the figure will be nearer \$50,000.

Raymond, Ill.

Arrangements are being made for the erection of a new theater in Raymond. The old opera house is to be torn down and a new one story building erected. It is said the cost will be \$20,000.

Oxford, Ont.

James K. Bake of this town, and a man by the name of Schultz, who came here on a visit from Texas, will open a moving picture show in College Corner. As there is no electric lighting plant in College Corner to furnish light for their machine they purchased their own electric dynamo and have installed it in the steam laundry. They expect to have the new theater ready for the first show Saturday night.

Cedar Rapids, Ia.

The Lyric, a new moving picture theater, opened Sept. 21.

Vincennes, Ind.

On October 5 Manager Drellinger, of the Airdome, will change it from a moving picture to a talking picture theater.—Frank W. Bell.

St. Thomas, Ont.

The management of the Idle Hour theater have leased for a term of years the Ingram & Davey east end store. It is the intention of the management to place there a theater similar to the Idle Hour, and to be known as The Lyric. The building will be remodelled. The new theater will be run by the Miles brothers.

Ft. Dodge, Ia.

The new Magic theater on South Eighth street has been formally opened to the public.

Youngstown, O.

Walter J. Hanitch, proprietor of "Dreamland," in West Federal street, has secured a lease of Paul Fitch for a room in the Howell block, corner West Federal and Central Square, in which he will open the finest nickelodeon in the state. The estimated cost of the new amusement house is \$10,000.

Fulton, Ky.

Messrs. Jones & Fields have installed a stage in their new Citizens theater and will begin the coming week to have the first vaudeville and moving picture show that has been in this city. Vaudeville and specialties were tried here a short time ago by a traveling company, in the Voldome, and proved such a success that the Citizens theater thought it wise to keep it up.—WAYNE THOMAS.

Beloit, Wis.

The new moving picture theater on East Grand avenue is the Colonial. Messrs. Downs & Litzer are the proprietors.

Cincinnati, O.

Hill & Fryberg will open a new moving picture theaterium at Linn and Liberty streets.—RUNEX.

Lake Charles, La.

Saturday night witnessed the formal opening of the two new moving picture theaters on Ryan street—the Pastime, owned and managed by J. P. Pittman, and the Idlehour, owned and managed by Eugene Brewer. Both enjoyed a large patronage on the occasion of their opening day.

Ottawa, Can.

Mr. Benj. Stapleton's new Majestic moving picture theater, now nearing completion, is billed to open week of Sept. 20, and will seat about five hundred. This theater will be the second largest in the city and will be supplied with a change of film every day from the Klein service. The entrance will not be of a gaudy nature, but plain and attractive; the decorations to be of carved wood. The architecture of the theater is the work of Colborne P. Merideth and will be fashioned after the style of some English theaters. This should be a paying investment, as it is the most centrally located house of them all. It will be a ten-cent house. Mr. Stapleton was formerly a resident of Cincinnati.—W. J. DAVIDSON, JR.

Honesdale, Pa.

The moving picture business looks quite good here for the present, as Mr. S. Freeman, manager of the theaterium, has also leased the building, which was formerly occupied by the Dreamland, which was a failure, and will be known as the Nickolette hereafter. The building has been painted and repaired with up-to-date improvements. Sept. 12 was the opening show, which was to a capacity business. Mr. E. Freeman, son of the manager, will have charge of same for the present.—LOERCHER.

Elgin, Ill.

The new Temple theater is located in the masonic temple in North Spring street. The theater has a seating capacity of 300, while more seats could be added.

Texarkana, Texas.

The new Star theater on East Broad street has opened, and judging from the liberal patronage accorded it in this its first week, it is destined to meet with howling success. High-class vaudeville is the attraction, closing with the usual moving pictures.—W. H. BRAHANY.

Spokane, Wash.

The Novelty theater, the latest moving picture theater in the city, opened its doors Sept. 7 to big business. It is under the management of Causey & Spencer and has seating capacity of 500.—E. AXELSON.

Salem, Oregon.

Salem will have the best and most modern picture show in the state. It is located in the new D'Arcy building on Liberty street and will be opened for business Sept. 10. K. L. Bernard, of Portland, is the proprietor and manager.

St. Joseph, Mo.

Bijou Dream is the new name of the old Musee at the corner of Fourth and Edmond streets. The Bijou Dream proposes to present moving pictures to local theatergoers. The theater has been thoroughly remodeled and renovated and the stage facilities considerably improved. J. S. Bilz, of Omaha, is the manager. E. L. Satinson, of the Burwood theater, Omaha, has been here assisting.

Salt Lake Notes.

One of the finest musical treats this city has enjoyed for a long period held the boards at the Salt Lake theater 17-19. The affair was billed as a fall carnival

and terpsichorean melange, and was directed by F. M. Agostini and P. L. Lynwood, under the auspices of the Mutual Improvement Associations of Salt Lake City. Twelve hundred people participated, including some of the leading musicians of the city. Portions of the operas Carmen, Mikado, the Bohemian Girl and Il Trovatore were rendered, the leads being sustained by George D. Pyper, manager of the Salt Lake theater, Horace S. Ensign, secretary of the Utah State Fair Association, John D. Spencer, Hugh Dougall, M. J. Brines, Hazel Taylor and Hallie Foster Sutherland. The scenic and tableau effects were striking, and good houses showed marked enthusiasm at every performance. The carnival will be continued at the new Odeon hall Sept. 22-26.

A recent visitor to Salt Lake was Mr. Smutzer, of the Pelton and Smutzer syndicate of Denver. After a conference with Archie M. Cox, manager of the Grand, it was announced that the members of the Grand Stock company had been given a month's notice, at the expiration of which time this playhouse will be fitted up and utilized for melodrama the balance of the season. The front of the house is to be brilliantly illuminated, and every effort be made to attract the lovers of "thrillers."

Ernest A. Lambourne was recently inaugurated as chief doorkeeper of the Salt Lake theater. Mr. Lambourne has practically grown up in this house, having entered its employ when a mere lad seventeen years ago. He is a genial and obliging young man and his unfailing courtesy well qualifies him for the position.

Work is going briskly on at both new playhouses, the Auerbach and Max Florence's melodrama stand, which he is building for the Cort interests. When these are completed Salt Lake will be supporting five theaters and eight moving picture houses.

The Bijou, C. E. Osterloh's new picture theater, is meeting with great success, having packed houses nightly thus far. Mr. Osterloh is negotiating for the building of an extension which will enable him to erect a stage for vaudeville performances.

The Rocky Mountain Moving Picture Co., recently organized in this state, have put some excellent films of the Cheyenne Cowboy Meet on the market. They will shortly be in a position to turn out a great deal of interesting western stuff.

Great preparations are being made for the forthcoming Eisteddfod to be held in the mammoth Mormon tabernacle early in October. The Utah State Fair and the semi-annual conference of the Mormon church will be held the same dates, which means the attracting of thousands of people from all over the west. The show people reap a golden harvest at this time of year.

All the moving picture houses report a great increase in receipts during the past two weeks. The Cameraphone is drawing large crowds, the two new films, Mikado and Quo Vadis, having proved popular.—RUFUS D. JOHNSON.

Lubin May Open New Studio.

Savannah, Ga., Sept. 22.

A representative of Lubin, of Philadelphia, is in this city and making a picture soon to be released called "Cotton Scenes of the South." It is very probable that a studio will be opened here by Mr. Lubin, as there is no end of opportunities here for good material of moving pictures, the weather conditions in winter being "just right."—ROBINSON.

Actress Bit Burglar's Wrist.

Minneapolis, Sept. 17.

Here's a story that sounds almost true. Lydia Dickson, said to be a real actress with the Checkers company, had a narrow escape from being robbed while in a Great Northern sleeper near St. Paul. Lydia, seeing a man's hand wandering about, just gave it a good hard bite on the wrist. It is said the man gave a genuine scream and that he escaped.

FRANK R. MERRITT,

The Famous Black-Face Monologist, Who is Meeting With Success in and Around Chicago.



CARNIVAL MANAGER TO SUE IOWA TOWN

R. L. Carroll Wants Damages From Webster City, Iowa, for Moving His Show From Street to Vacant Lot.

R. L. Carroll, manager of the United States Carnival Company, has notified the city officials of Iowa City that he will bring a suit for damages against the town. While showing in the streets there he was arrested, enjoined and forced to move his shows to vacant lots. The mayor ordered his shows to stop and Judge Howell, of the district court, granted an injunction against Carroll.—GEO. C. TUCKER.

BIG BUSINESS AT TEXARKANA.

Theaters Opening the Season to Capacity. Summer Attractions Report Excellent Results at Close of Season. Other Notes.

Texarkana, Tex., Sept. 18.

Never before, in the theatrical history of Texarkana, has there been as much activity shown at the opening of the various winter places of amusement as during the opening of the season 1908-09. From observations gained during the past two weeks, the business is going to be one of the best in the history of the city. The past week there were five places of amusement open and each had the S. R. O. out every night.

Mr. Gus Hoover has been appointed to the position of secretary and treasurer of Scott's Vaudeville theater. Mr. Hoover is well fitted to the position and Mr. Scott has gained a valuable addition to his staff.

Mr. Tom North, general press agent of Gentry Brothers famed animal shows (also traveling correspondent of THE SHOW WORLD) was in the city the 14th. Mr. North says that the imposition thrust upon the Texarkana people last year under the name of Gentrys, was in no manner connected with the Original Gentry Shows and had no right to use the Gentry title.

This week the new "Star" vaudeville theater went big, Moon & Ryan heading the list.

At Brown's Vaudeville, Ray Fern, monologist, and the LaVivians, magicians, performed to the satisfaction of large audiences. Mr. Brown has again this year Busey's orchestra, consisting of eight pieces.

Scott's Vaudeville: Jack and Mabelle Price headed the bill with Richard Hamlin "The Medley Man in Brown" running a close second, the balance of the bill making a good impression. Prof. Hicks and his large orchestra are attending to the musical part of the program.

At Peter's Electric, pictures were shown this week to good business.

Messrs Walshe, Weber, Holman, Whitfield and Scott were appointed ushers for the ensuing year at the Grand Opera house. Ben Higginbotham is attending the door, while Ed Khul is acting as secretary and treasurer. Mr. Clarence Greenblatt is again made manager.

The Airdome has closed for the season. This has proven to be a great pleasure to the amusement loving public during the hot summer nights of the past few months.

Beautiful Spring Lake (Ghio) Park has closed for the season. The street car management have consented to run cars for the benefit of the public each Sunday for the balance of September, after which the park will be closed. Work will commence early next spring by Manager Wood, who hopes to remodel the drive-ways and walks, etc., thereby making it one of the finest parks in the Southwest.

The writer visited Shreveport the earlier part of the week and went over the fair grounds. The grounds are fast taking shape, the various concessions are being placed and all other preliminary work is being done in order that the fair may be started on the 2d of November.—W. H. BRAHANY.

KARM A CLEVER ADVERTISER.

Majestic Theater Man Asks For 200 Cats, Tags Them and Turns Them Loose.

Springfield, Ill., Sept. 15, 1908.

E. J. Karm, of the Majestic theater, is probably one of the cleverest advertisers of the age. Recently while the Hans & Nix production was here he put a notice in the daily papers advertising for 200 cats to be brought to the theater. There were probably 1,000 attended accompanied by their owners. Mr. Karm proceeded to tie a tag to each cat's neck telling of the show that was being presented there; the consequences were that the show was well attended.

Montana, which opened here Sept. 10, for a three days engagement, played to good business. Sure Shot Sam opened Sunday matinee to a well filled house for a four-nights' engagement.

The Gaiety theater under the management of Smith & Burton reopens with first class vaudeville Sept. 21.

The Nickeloden has installed talking pictures, the only house in the city to do so and are meeting with great success.—CARL E. SPENCER.

SELWYN'S PLAY PRODUCED.

Washington Critics Declare Play is Padded and the Belasco Is Not Being Crowded.

Washington, D. C., Sept. 16.

Edgar Selwyn's play, Father and Son, was given its premier at the Belasco theater this week, but did not prove to be a great drawing card. William Norris as "Doc" Filkins, achieves another triumph in characterization; the supporting company is strong. The local critics declare that the chief fault is the lack of compactness, it looks as though the author discovered too late that there was not enough action to fill three hours and he has tried to pad. Notwithstanding the fact that the New York press is giving the piece publicity, because Otto Weil claims the play is pirated, it will not draw the public.—V. GILMORE IDEN.

FLOODS HURT SHOW BUSINESS IN THE SOUTH

Georgia and South Carolina Amusements Said to Be Adversely Affected—Countess Von Hatzfeldt Company Stranded.

The recent flood through Georgia and South Carolina has had a marked effect on attendances at the various places of amusement; so marked has been this effect and so disastrous has it been to even first-class performances, that the Daughter of America company in which Countess Olga Von Hatzfeldt is the star, has come into financial distress, and the company has become stranded in this city. Of course the Countess and some of the principals can easily take care of themselves, but the chorus is not as fortunate, and a benefit performance at reduced prices will be given on the 14th in order for the performers to reach New York. Mr. Charley Matthews, manager of the Academy of Music, has kindly given them the use of the Academy free of cost for this afternoon, and it is hoped, that many barriers will be overcome.—EDWIN J. BLANK.

LACKAYE SCORES IN NEW PLAY.

"The Battle" Tried Out at Duluth and is Greeted Enthusiastically—Will be in Chicago Next Week.

Duluth, Sept. 18.

Critics here are unanimous in the opinion that Wilton Lackaye has the best role of his career in the millionaire in Cleveland Moffett's new play, The Battle, which was tried out here at the Lyceum theater before a large audience tonight. Everyone in Duluth's who's who was present, and at the conclusion of the third act the author and leading man were called upon for a speech.

The story deals with a pretty love story between a rich girl doing settlement work and a young idealist. Two scenes possess extraordinary power. The first is between the kidnapping socialist and millionaire, in which the capitalist has his say out with labor, and the second where the rich man admits wealth is a meager thing at best, and that a life of service to others with consequent peace is far more desirable.

E. M. Holland, in the fine role of a gentle, socialistic philosopher, H. B. Warner, as Philip Ames, has the best juvenile part of many seasons, a sort of John Storm. Julia Dean, as the rich girl who falls in love at first sight with a street preacher, is effective. Grace Wilkins has the role of a reformed girl of the streets.

The Battle will have its premiere at the Chicago Grand Opera house Sept. 27.

JOHN DREW IN JACK STRAW.

Famous Frohman Star Appears as Regulation Cafe Waiter, Even to the Tips and French Beard.

New York, Sept. 17.

John Drew in French beard, passing coffee and taking tips was an unfamiliar and amusing sight to the audience at the Empire theater when Charles Frohman presented him in Jack Straw, a three-act comedy by W. Somerset Maugham. Mr. Drew has always appeared in conventional attire, and has been looked upon as the sartorial standard of the stage for a long time.

Jack Straw is a waiter at the Great Babylon hotel. For personal reasons and to avenge an insult, he assumes the character of the Archduke of Pomerania, and as such is welcomed into the family of the Parker Jenningses, against whom he has a grudge. The Jenningses make much of him and get themselves in very deep before they discover the imposture. They threaten to expose the masquerader, but he defies them. They expose him and become the laughing stock of their acquaintances. Then it suddenly turns out that Jack Straw is really the Archduke, and he asks for the hand of Ethel Jennings in marriage and gets it, bringing a happy ending out of an amusing situation.

Rose Coughlan as Mrs. Parker Jennings, divided the honors of the evening with Mr. Drew. Others in the cast were: E. L. Davenport, Marie Majeroni, Frederick Tyler, Edwin Nicander, E. Soldene Powell, Adelaide Prince, Helen Freeman, Grace Henderson and Vivian Blackburn.

The press notices were appreciative. Charles Darnton in The Evening World said: "In Jack Straw Mr. Drew scores the happiest success of his career, but the play does not justify London's great ado over Maugham."

Ashton Stevens in The Evening Journal: "Mr. Maugham knows how to write for his day. * * * He has in one play restored Rose Coughlan to the heart of Broadway and given John Drew the best light comedy part he has had in years."

F. F. Schrader in the Globe: "The comedy made an excellent impression and will probably last out the season, repeating in a measure the success it is having in London."

ACTOR'S HARD LUCK.

When Yankee Regent Is Stranded, Wife of Leading Man Is Taken Ill and Sent to Hospital.

John Collins, the principal comedian of the Yankee Regent company, played in hard lines in the final performance of that company, which stranded at Ft. Dodge, Sept. 12. His wife, who was the leading lady of the company, was at the hospital awaiting an operation for appendicitis and the owner of the production was in town to close up the enterprise.

All but three members of the company were stranded there and a benefit will be given by Manager Tom Arthur, of the Midland, to help the trouper to get back on the Rialto, in Chicago. Mrs. Collins' operation was successful and the physicians hope to save her life. The company has only been out a few weeks.—FRANK E. FOSTER.

GAMES OF GRAFT.

The Show World Invites All Members of the Profession of Entertainment to Contribute to This Column—An Accepted Article Entitles the Writer to Permanent Membership in

THE SOCIETY OF THE STUNG.

Game Number One.

Take one small-town manager and give him an electric sign in front of his show-shop. Have the juice turned on from seven-thirty to nine in the evening. Have the electric company charge three dollars for same. Let the manager stand in with the E. Co., and thus obtain a duplicate bill, charging nine dollars for the incandescent doings. (This is not difficult if you use a few seats.) Then bring in a near-sighted advance agent and have him stand for the nine per—then make the agent a life member.—O. H.

ALBERT PHILLIPS, LEADING MAN AT THE MARLOWE.



SONG SHOW BY COLUMBUS COMPOSER.

Marigold, a New Music Play, Accorded Big Reception at Initial Performance.

Columbus, O., Sept. 18.

Perhaps the day of real comic opera has dawned again. Barclay Walker, the Indianapolis composer and musician, hopes it has and has bent his best efforts to that end in his new composition, Marigold, which was tried on the Columbus stage last night and flatteringly, not to say "thankfully" received, in view of the "comedies with music" and musical comedies that have been seen here.

Of course there was the usual first night stiffness in the principals but Henrietta Lee, who, in the role of an enchanting widow, appears as much as Rene Dietrich, in the name part, is as self-possessed as ever and wears her expensive gowns in the most approved fashion.

The story is that of a young girl whose mother, a climber, desires that she marry an alleged count. The count is exposed as a waiter by the supposed missionary, who also has aspirations for Marigold, and at the same time he discovers himself as a wealthy traveler, of course accomplishing his end. Upon this basis Mr. Walker has built three acts of some comedy entirely surrounded by tuneful and gratifying music. He is a composer of merit and seemingly has revived the extinct comic opera of Alice Neilson's time and Frank Daniel's earlier vehicles.

Pink Hall plays the politician father of Marigold and Mlle. Mazzarette was the "climbing" mother who atrociously inserts incongruous French phrases in ordinary speech, as an evidence of her linguistic abilities. Edmund Stanlev, the "missionary" lover, is blessed with an excellent voice and commanding presence. Petite Florence Webber, graceful and entrancing, has a vim and dash which makes much of her part, one of Marigold's companions, Ben Grinnell and Will Samuels furnished what comedy there is, to the satisfaction of the audience.

There are many song hits, such as "George Darling," "Come Around Tonight," a unique telephone song, "Star Trio," a well rendered evening song with pretty lighting effects; "Queen of the Night," "Shadow Dance," "The Man That's Game," and "Please Mother Sing to Me."—PRAIGG.

School of Opera Organized.

Des Moines, Ia., Sept. 23

A school of opera has been organized here, under the leadership of James F. Roach, tenor, of Chicago, who has joined the faculty of the Highland Park College of Music. Mr. Roach has a repertoire of thirty operas and has sung leading roles for many years.

The Des Moines school is already started and the practice work is well begun. The opera Il Trovatore will be given at Foster's Opera house in December and will be the first grand opera that has been attempted in Des Moines for a number of years by local professional vocalists. The principals have been chosen and are now in rehearsal. The piece is to be handsomely staged and a full orchestra engaged.

The school expects to put on The Mikado next spring and follow next fall with Faust. The principals for the first opera are: Leonora, Mrs. Grace Clark-DeCraff; Azuchena, Mrs. Katherine Bray-Haines; Inez, Miss Margaret Moss; Manrico De Luna, Jay N. Darling; Ferrado, Lou Gerhardt; Ruiz, Carl Jacobson; Ginevra, W. H. Downing. Dean Noel will direct the operas.—GEO. C. TUCKER.

South Bend Notes.

The Majestic, a little vaudeville house seating about 900, will open the latter part of October under the management of Thos. Moss.—The newly named Indiana is playing to good business with vaudeville. P. J. Clifford looks after the business affairs.—Louis Simons, manager of the Bell Opera house, in Benton Harbor, was here last week consulting with E. J. Welsh.—Manager Welsh has been in Richmond, Ind., a good deal lately and has secured the Janet theater of that city for the Sommers' circuit.—The Merchants' and Manufacturers' Exposition, promoted by Henry B. Marks, of Chicago, Sept. 14, is said to be a gigantic failure. Some of the stranded acts are still in town. A few went on with him to Monmouth, Ill., where he was going to try it again.—W. W. DUNKLE.

Winnepeg (Man.) Notes.

The Corned Metropolitan Opera Company is hooked to appear at the Walker theater Monday, Sept. 28. The four leading artists are Madame Josephine Jacoby, Madame Marie Rapinold, Signor Ricardo Martin and Signor Giuseppe Campanari. This is expected to be one of the best musical attractions ever offered in western Canada.

Miss Ethel May, who is at the Dominion this week, is exciting as much wonder and drawing as large crowds as she did last season during her engagement here.—C. O. BURNHAM.

Marion (Ill.) Notes.

The Woods Sisters Comedy Co. close their week's engagement at the Marion Opera house with Lena Rivers, the old and popular piece. During their engagement they have put on some very fine plays to nice business and are leaving the patrons of the house well pleased.—J. M. JENKINS.

SPECULATORS MUST GO SAYS NEW YORK

Leading Newspapers Editorially Advocate Abolition of Sidewalk Ticket Brokers in Eastern Metropolis.

In a recent editorial the New York Tribune said, regarding speculation in theater tickets:

The Theater Managers' Association having begun a vigorous agitation for the suppression of sidewalk ticket speculators, there may be a ray of hope of diminishing a nuisance which New York theatergoers have too long endured. The association intends to ask the board of aldermen to cancel the licenses under the protection of which the ticket brokers occupy the sidewalks in front of the theaters and other places of amusement, and nightly annoy the public with their solicitations. Were it not for their licenses they could be dealt with as obstructions of free passage along the street and free ingress to the theaters. But the powers that be in the board of aldermen continue to shield them by giving their calling official approval.

Perform No Useful Service.

We do not see that any necessity or useful service is performed by these sidewalk brokers. They make irregular and extortionate charges for tickets, and persons who deal with them dispense with the safeguards thrown around the sale of tickets at the theater box office or at some established ticket bureau. The theater management often repudiates the sidewalk agent and refuses to make good his contracts. It may be said that only inexperienced or foolish theatergoers take his wares at his exorbitant rates, and that they deserve no protection. But the manner in which he does business is an offense to the public which does not want to deal with him and which cannot escape his importunities. His elimination would injure no one and would be a decided step toward better order and greater public comfort.

A Nuisance to All Concerned.

The patrons of the New York theaters have undoubtedly felt aggrieved at the extent to which speculation in tickets has been carried since all the most desirable seats in many houses have been turned over to the hotel agencies or the sidewalk brokers. It has been difficult, therefore, for a theatergoer to get a good seat at the published box office rates, even if he went weeks in advance to the box office. It should be freely admitted that the hotel ticket agencies perform a useful function. They make it easy for visitors to get seats on short notice and save a stranger time and trouble. For that saving he gladly pays a fixed

advance charge. We fully agree with Mr. Daniel Frohman on this point.

Frohman's Suggestion.

We also heartily indorse Mr. Frohman's suggestion that not too large a proportion of the desirable seats be turned over regularly to the hotel agencies, so that patrons going to the box office may feel that they are having a fair chance to get the benefit of the normal box office rates. The more effectually the sidewalk speculator is stamped out the more readily will the theater managers be able to accommodate both classes of theatergoers—those from out of town who need the hotel agencies, and those who, living here, prefer to do their own purchasing. The curb operator makes matters distinctly worse for both the public and the managers, and he should not be tolerated longer under a misuse of the municipal power to license brokerage.

From the Press.

The New York Press said, editorially: If there were no political graft in New York and at Albany it is not likely that the nuisance of ticket speculation, which the theatrical managers are trying so hard to abate, would ever have flourished as it does in this city. Those who understand this business know that most theater managers, and the reputable ones particularly, do not benefit by the extortion to which the public is subjected whenever a play attains strong popularity.

Nor do the big profits which are reaped in this scalping game go into the pockets of the men who sell tickets on the sidewalk, as every one must suspect. It is generally known that these privileges go to men with political power, such as theater managers, too, may often be compelled to recognize, under heavy penalty.

Tammany Methods.

Any one familiar with Tammany methods need not be instructed in the details of how local politicians can "declare themselves" on any profitable business which is subject to municipal regulations.

Undoubtedly the parasites of ticket scalping hurt the theatrical business as a whole, and the influential men who manage the affairs of the theater in New York are awake to the damage that is being done. They deserve the warmest support of the public in the fight they have now begun to end this pest, for it has been started in the interest of theatergoers no less than that of the owners of plays and playhouses.

AMUSEMENT CO. ASSIGNS

Harlem River Park Management Makes Over Its Holdings for Benefit of Creditors—Paid a Rental of \$23,000 Plus Taxes—Mechanics' Liens for \$39,000 Said to Be Cause the Trouble.

New York, Sept. 20.

What promised to be one of the most popular of the many amusement parks of New York City has been forced to close by reason of the fact that several mechanics need the money which they claim the park management owes them.

The Harlem River Park Amusement Company, which has conducted the well known Sulzer's Harlem River Park at Second avenue and 126th and 127th streets, has made an assignment to Charles O. Maas, the deed having been signed by Ernest T. Sulzer, the treasurer. The business was conducted for many years by Herman Sulzer, who died in March, 1907. After considerable litigation his widow, Catherine, obtained a

controlling interest in the company, which had been incorporated several years before Herman Sulzer's death. The company was capitalized at \$100,000. Ernest T. Sulzer has managed the business. On November 21, 1907, a fire destroyed the buildings, causing a loss, it is said, of \$200,000, with insurance of \$114,000.

The company rebuilt last spring and it is said issued \$100,000 bonds secured by mortgage on the leases, fixtures, etc. The lease of the land was renewed for twenty-one years at a rental of \$23,000 to \$25,000 annually and taxes to be paid. About two weeks ago mechanics' liens for \$39,000 were filed against the company for work done and materials supplied for the new buildings.

WEALTH FOR ACTRESS.

Gertrude Coghlan, an Helress to Lands in Prince Edwards Island With Deposits of Platinum.

A considerable deposit of platinum has been discovered at Fortune Bay, Prince Edwards Island, on the summer home owned by Gertrude Coghlan, leading woman in The Traveling Salesman.

She has disposed of the eighty-five acres to a Montreal firm for \$125,000. Miss Coghlan inherited the property from her father, Mr. Charles Coghlan, and a year ago was offered about one-tenth of the amount for the property.

Chattanooga's Theatrical Paper.

The Chattanooga News is making a specialty of theatrical news and general amusement gossip. Every day in the week it has from two to four columns of good, live, up-to-date matter pertaining to the show world and the people inhabitants thereof. On Saturday the News carries one full page and often the matter runs over to another page. Mr. W. V. Turley, the Chattanooga representative of THE SHOW WORLD, is at the head of this department, and is doing much to make the News the leading amusement daily in the South.

ELMORES ARE CANCELLED.

Sketch Artists Bring Family Quarrel to Footlights and Manager Discharges Them.

Mobile, Ala., Sept. 19.

The Elmores (Gus and Margie), booked at the Pictorium as comedy sketch artists for this week, had their engagement cancelled on the first performance owing to Mr. Elmore working in a little family comedy that did not belong in the sketch.

He, taking offense at a small break on his wife's part, proceeded to argue the question with her by slapping her face, with the result that he was picked up by the strong man (Mr. Millo) who is working in conjunction with them, and set in the corner with instruction to "be good." The manager then appearing on the scene, wanted to have an understanding with him with the result that he was ejected from the house. Elmore is threatening a suit, but in all probabilities will be only too glad to let the matter drop, as this kind of advertising will undoubtedly do him no good. The manager stated to the audience that his only reason for dismissing the Elmores was his desire to run a strictly clean show.—WILLIAMS.

Orpheum Orthographs.

Miss Julia Herne, daughter of the late James Herne, will open her season on October 4, at the American theater, St. Louis, in a new offering: A Mountain Cinderella, which she wrote in collaboration with Mr. George D. Parker. Miss Herne has a long tour over the Orpheum circuit to follow.

Miss Hope Booth, the dainty comedienne now touring in George M. Cohan's A Little Blonde Lady, has been called by dramatic writers. The American Cleo de Merode. During her present engagements in the West Miss Booth intends giving special matinees of playlets by Clyde Fitch, Channing Pollock, the late Kenneth Lee and Rachel Curritters.

Helene Bertram, the popular American prima donna, writes that she is just completing a three-act musical comedy which has been accepted in scenario form by Henry W. Savage.

A grandniece of James Schoolcraft Sherman, Republican nominee for the Vice-Presidency, Miss Sadie Sherman, is playing on the Orpheum circuit in a clever monologue: At the Photographers. There is no politics, just songs and stories, as Miss Sherman says she leaves the "stunning" to the masculine portion of the house.

Among the recent arrivals from Europe are Tony Wilson, Mlle. Heloise and the Warren Sisters, all European acrobats and equilibrists who are booked this season over the big Western vaudeville circuit.

Eva Westcott opens in Memphis, a week from Monday in a new sketch, written for her by London Mitchell, called: A Dancer at Home.

John Geddis Very Original.

Boston, Sept. 23.

John Geddis, who through his many years' service as assistant property man at Keith's, in Boston, is known to pretty much everybody in vaudeville, has joined the ranks of the benedicts. He married Miss Gertrude Ryan of South Boston. Geddis claims to have been the original Roman soldier in Fred Ray's sketch of that name, and says he furnished the inspiration for Jack Williams when he wrote Skinney's Finish.

State Inspector Orders Changes.

Escanaba, Mich., Sept. 18.

Among the theaters affected here by the visit of State Inspector Peter Fitzpatrick are the Peterson, Bijou and Grand. At the first the changes merely include the outward opening of doors, the placing of red lights, and the placing of exit cards. At the Grand the doors must open outward. At the Bijou a very slight alteration in the opening of the doors is ordered.

Menominee Bijou Leased.

Menominee, Mich., Sept. 22.

The Danforth-Cambell Circuit has leased the Bijou theater here and will make many improvements prior to the re-opening of the theater. The management assures the public a high class vaudeville entertainment after October first.

Olcott Likes Ragged Robin.

Webster City, Ia., Sept. 22.

So well satisfied is Chauncey Olcott with his present vehicle, Ragged Robin, that he announced while in Sioux City last week, he will use it again next season. "It was written by 'The Girl of my Dreams'—my wife," said Mr. Olcott, "and I think it is the best thing in which I ever appeared."—GEO. C. TUCKER.

Smith Appointed Manager.

Toledo, Sept. 19.

H. A. Smith has been appointed manager of the Valentine theater here. Mr. Smith is a resident of Cleveland. He has had a wide experience in theatrical work. Pearl Smith, his daughter, will continue as treasurer of the house. R. H. Studvin will continue as assistant treasurer.

Voeller Sells Interest to Klingenfuss. Belleville, Ill., Sept. 22. Peter Voeller has sold his interest in the opera house and the Central Hotel here to Hugo Klingenfuss. The latter promises to engage the best attractions at regular intervals.

Fields Breaks Quarter Century Vow. (mgr.)—After a lapse of twenty-one years Al G. Fields has again shown in Winston-Salem. Showing here a generation ago he received a terrible frost, having practically nothing in front but the D. H. Hot. Vowing vengeance on the town (which it was at that time) he declared that he would never show in it again. For nearly a quarter of a century he has persistently bent his word. While showing in neighboring cities each year he has refused the most flattering offers to play here, only agreeing to show here this year for a large guarantee. As a matter of course he was greeted by a capacity house tonight.—C. H. GRAINGER.

EDITOR WRITES OPERA.

Lasso-Land Is Name of New Musical Piece to Be Produced at Dallas, Tex.

On Monday night, Sept. 28, Lasso-Land, a romantic comic opera written by John N. Edwards, night editor of The Dallas News, and William V. Brumby, managing editor of the St. Louis Star-Chronicle, with the score by E. J. Nevy, a St. Louis musician and composer, will be offered to the music and theater-going public of Dallas in its initial performance, which will be at the Lake Cliff Casino by the Ada Meade Opera company.

BRYAN'S DAUGHTER WRITES PLAY.

Mary Mannering Said to Be Considering New Vehicle by Mrs. Leavitt.

Webster City, Ia., Sept. 23.

Iowa, Nebraska, and in fact the whole west is fairly bubbling over with interest in the announcement just made from New York that Ruth Bryan Leavitt, daughter of William Jennings Bryan, has written a four-act drama for Miss Mary Mannering, in which the latter will appear next spring, provided that after reading the play she believes she is fitted for the leading feminine role.

Last spring when Miss Mannering was playing in *Glorious Betsy*, at Lincoln, Neb., Miss Maude Turner Gordon, a member of the company and a close friend of the Bryan family, invited Mrs. Leavitt to Miss Mannering's dressing room.

Mrs. Leavitt modestly told of a vaudeville sketch she had written, which had been presented with some success at the Union Square theater, New York, and in which Miss Gordon had appeared. She said she believed she could write a play which would suit Miss Mannering. The actress told her that if she would try, she would give it serious attention.

The other day Mrs. Leavitt wrote Miss Mannering saying she had finished the drama and asked her if she still wishes to read it. Miss Mannering asked that the manuscript be forwarded her at the Lyric theater, New York, and Mrs. Leavitt has sent it. If it looks promising Miss Mannering will produce it in the spring when she returns after her tour in *Glorious Betsy* closes.—GEO. C. TUCKER.

LOUIS PLACK DEAD.

Owner of the Orpheum Theater at Altoona Dies at Juniata Gap After Brief Illness.

Altoona, Pa., Sept. 20.

At 9:30 o'clock Saturday night Mr. Louis Plack, owner of the Orpheum theater in this city, died at his country home in Juniata Gap, after an illness of two weeks duration. For several days previous to his death his condition had been very serious and the announcement of his death did not therefore come unexpected.

Mr. Plack was a large property owner in this city, among other properties owned by him was the Mountain City theater which was destroyed by fire and afterwards rebuilt and known as the Lyric theater and devoted to Keith vaudeville. This theater was also destroyed by fire about two years ago and was again rebuilt last fall and is now the well known Orpheum theater, devoted to vaudeville and leased by Messrs. Wilmer and Vincent, of New York City.

In the death of Mr. Plack this city loses one of its best citizens.—WEST-BROOK.

FISKE TO HAVE TWO MORE SHOWS.

One Stock to Locate in Johnstown, N. Y. The Other to Tour Principal Cities.

Gloversville, N. Y., Sept. 21.

E. D. Fiske, of the Fiske stock, playing the *Darling* theater, this city, is to put two more shows on the road, one is to locate in Johnstown, N. Y., and the other to play the principal cities in the east.

Eleanor Mead Miller, of this city, has joined the Shuberts and has left to join The Witching Hour company.

The *Darling* and Family theaters are doing good business in spite of the hard times, because they are playing at popular prices.—H. A. LOCKROW.

Denison (Tex.) Notes.

Manager J. H. Gardner of the Denison Opera house, has returned from New York, where he has been on business in connection with the attractions for the coming season.

The Denison Opera house has undergone repairs during the dark season, new scenery has been placed in, the interior has been repainted and fire escapes have been added. Mr. Gardner has succeeded in making very attractive bookings for the coming season, and assures his patrons of shows to please every taste.

The season opens Monday, Sept. 21, with *The Holy City*.

A list of stars, repertoire companies, vaudeville attractions and minstrels will compose the season's amusement features.

The Brookstone theater also opens September 21 with a well known hypnotist as the entertainer for the week. The following week will be taken up by the Whitman Comedians in repertoire.

Several conveniences have been added during the dark season and the Brookstone will be one of the most attractive and cozy of the little playhouses of the state.

Managers Brooks and Tone have secured splendid attractions, having engaged the most popular repertoire companies that tour this part of the theatrical province.

Col. Frank Robertson is here today making arrangements for the Sells and Floto shows to exhibit here Wednesday, Sept. 30th.

Mr. Robertson secured the old city park for the lot, which is one of the best lots in the state, being right in the heart of the city and close to all railroad lines.—RICHARD M. GRAY.

SIX-A-DAY HOUSES TO BE ELIMINATED

Southern Advanced Vaudeville Association Convenes at Atlanta and Organizes Movement for Betterment of Conditions.

Atlanta, Ga., Sept. 21.

On Wednesday of this week the Southern Advanced Vaudeville Association held a meeting at the Piedmont Hotel. A movement was organized which has for its object the elimination of the six-and-more-shows-a-day houses in the south and to institute a booking agency which will have charge of the bookings for the houses in this association.

There are about 20 southern vaudeville houses represented in this association, and the officers are F. W. Bandy, president, Savannah, Ga.; G. A. Vucovich, vice president, Pensacola, Fla., and P. R. Whiting, secretary and treasurer, Montgomery, Ala.

The towns, houses and managers constituting the association are as follows: F. W. Bandy, Savannah, Ga., and Augusta, Ga.; G. A. Vucovich, Pensacola, Fla.; R. B. Kelly, Almo theater, and Aldrome, Birmingham, Ala.; W. S. Albert, Orpheum theater, Chattanooga, Tenn.; I. D. Burbridge, Orpheum theater and Aldrome, Jacksonville, Fla.; Sam DuVries, booking agent, 67 S. Clark St., Chicago; Lyric theater, Memphis, Tenn.; Crescent theater, Knoxville, and Crystal theater, Nashville, Tenn.; Victor Perez, Pictorium theater, Mobile, Ala.; Frank Kelly, Wonder-land theater, Palatka, Fla.; Mr. Miller, Vaudeville theater, Miami, Fla.; manager Vaudeville house, Live Oak, Fla.; manager Vaudeville house, Lakeland, Fla., and W. A. Wassman, Nashville, Tenn.—TURLEY.

New York Notes.

New York, Sept. 19.

William Morris, Inc., has secured an injunction intended to prevent Joseph Howard and Mable Barrison from appearing under any other management than his.

Robert McBride, for the past two years manager of the New York Hippodrome, has resigned and joined James D. Barton and Willard D. Coxey in the newly organized James D. Barton & Co., Inc., which is putting out four Devil companies, by permission of H. W. S. J. B. Fitzpatrick, formerly manager of the Majestic, has succeeded to the position formerly held by Mr. McBride.

Changes in the bills are announced for the Casino and Lyric theaters, Sept. 28. Lulu Glaser, in *Mlle. Mischief*, opens at the Lyric and Louise Gunning, in *Marcelle*, at the Casino.

Harry Bulger has been engaged to play the principal comedy role in *Algeria* at the Broadway theater.

Gertrude Hoffmann will appear with *The Mimic World* which opens its tour with a week's engagement at the Grand Opera House, Sept. 28. She is to do her Salome dance and Spring Song dance with her imitations. Two thousand dollars per week is said to be her salary.

Henry Miller will give the first performance of his new piece, *Mater*, Friday afternoon, Sept. 25, instead of the following Monday.

Adele Ritchie, the prima donna of *Fascinating Flora*, is going into vaudeville.

Fred Niblo, Big Chief of the *White Rats*, returned to New York and America, Saturday, Sept. 19, and was given a grand reception by the members of the order.

The Fourteenth Street Theater will go back to moving pictures. Popular priced attractions have not proved profitable.

Al. Reeves has decided to give up the idea of being a star in George M. Cohan's *The American Idea*, and will return to the management of his burlesque shows. Robert L. Dailey is to take his place.

Springfield (Ill.) Notes.

Springfield, Ill., Sept. 22.

The District Leader finished a three rights engagement here Saturday at the Majestic theater. Although this is the third time Joe Howard's popular musical comedy has played here, they met with very good business.

Brown's in Town opened here Sunday night for a four nights' engagement and were given a rousing welcome by two good size audiences.

At last Springfield is to see *The Devil*, which is booked here for Thursday for a three nights' engagement. Nothing has created so much excitement here since the riot than the announcement that this play was to appear here so early in the season.

Mr. E. J. Karm, manager of the Majestic theater, has booked for Fair Week attractions including David Higgins in *Capt. Clay of Missouri*, *The Flower of the Ranch* and *Azorina*.

At the Chatterton Opera house Egypta was presented last week by a company of home talent for the benefit of the Y. M. C. A. Four thousand persons attended the performance and it was a great success financially.

A *Stubborn Cinderella* direct from the Princess theater, Chicago, played here Sunday night and was greeted by a packed house. The piece will reappear here during the Corn Carnival for three performances in November.

L. Frank Baum's *Fairylogue* and Radio plays are booked for Sept. 23.

Mr. Geo. W. Chatterton, Sr., manager

of the Chatterton Opera house, will offer the following attractions for Fair Week: *Follies of 1907*, Sept. 27; *The Honeymoon Trail*, Sept. 28-30; *The Man from Home*, Oct. 1-3.

Messrs. Burton & Smith opened their vaudeville house, *The Galety*, Monday, Sept. 21, to a packed house. There has been several improvements made and the entrance has been remodelled, which makes it a most attractive house.

A beautiful new curtain has just been put in at Chatterton's Opera house. The curtain contains a scene entitled *At Love's Altar*, and was fashioned by Ross-Dodge Company of New York, and painted by the English scenic artist, Richard Marston, who also painted the former curtain entitled *Westward Ho*.

Mr. E. J. Karm, manager of the Majestic theater, is also manager of a newspaper he is issuing every week, pertaining to the attractions that are to be presented at the Majestic theater. It is a very clever magazine and contains very up-to-date theatrical reading.

The Illinois Refined Roller Skating Rink opened here Sept. 23.

The Illinois State Fair opened here Friday, Sept. 25, and will continue until Oct. 2. The city has put on a festival air and the streets are thronged with visitors. The streets are wired with electrical effects and the capitol buildings and court house are illuminated. Great preparations are made for the races, and the entries have never been so plentiful or the track in better condition. Undoubtedly the exhibits will surpass anything ever attempted here before. The free attractions include some of the best first-class amusements obtainable. Capt. Bumbaugh will give several sensational flights in his mammoth airship.—CARL E. SPENCER.

Newark Notes.

Newark, N. J., Sept. 22.

Louis Franks, the well known theatrical advertising manager, of this city, with a staff of twenty men, will start today to bill this section for the mammoth Essex County Fair. They will put out something like 12,000 sheets in the city and suburbs alone, not counting the special stands and banners.

William S. Clark, of this city, will again assume the management of the Galety theater at Washington, D. C., his son assisting him on the house staff. Mr. Clark is also the owner of *The Jersey Lillies Extravaganza Co.*, of which he reports very good business.

Manager F. W. Alles, of Blaney's, is to be complimented in the manner in which this house is being operated this season. Good sized crowds of the better classes are noticed at all performances. A *Message from Mars* did well. *The Straight Road* opened big tonight. With other successes to follow, his business is assured.—JOE O'BRYAN.

The Devil at Indianapolis.

Indianapolis, Sept. 19.

Indianapolis had the rare opportunity of witnessing a premiere performance of one of the biggest sensations of the year, *Molnar's The Devil*, staged by Henry W. Savage and headed by Henry Dixey. Comment has not yet ended and every one who saw *The Devil* is still speculating as to the intention of the brilliant author. The city was also fortunate in the presence here during the presentation of *The Devil*, of Henry W. Savage himself, who came to lend his personal assistance to make the first performance a success.—JOHN VINSON.

Priest Writing Opera.

Iowa Falls, Ia., Sept. 16.

Rev. Father L. J. Vaughn, of the Catholic church, who has been on the lecture platform in the west for several years, is writing a comic opera, of which two acts have been completed and the third outlined. Stanlet Wood, of Chicago, is writing the lyrics, and Phillip A. Laffey of the same city is composing the music. Father Vaughn wrote *The Woman of the West*, a few years ago and staged it. The piece created a great commotion among the critics at the time because of its sensational features.—F. E. FOSTER.

Roster of the Jessie Shirley Stock.

Spokane, Wash., Sept. 22.

Harry W. Smith, manager; Owen M. Williamson, stage director; Charles E. Gunn, J. R. Amorv, Frank McQuarrie, Howard Foster, Albert McQuarrie, Less Greer, Dan Edson, Byron Loucks, Laura Adams, Anna Cleveland, Ethel Von Waldron, Jennie Lee and Jessie Shirley.—E. AXELSON.

Reynoldsville House Burned.

Reynoldsville, Pa., Sept. 17.

The Park theater here was totally destroyed by fire. The loss will be about \$10,000. The building was new and the work upon it not quite finished. It was owned jointly by Mrs. Lucas Dibble, Herple Bros. and H. P. Peters.

Mabel Stanton, John D. Griffen and Edwin Collins are rehearsing in one of Henry W. Savage's Devil companies.

GEM THEATER OPENS.

New Moving Picture House at St. Louis Built at Cost of \$50,000, with 25-Year Lease on Grounds.

St. Louis, Sept. 19.

The Gem theater, devoted to moving pictures, is open to the public. The house is owned by the Olive Amusement Co., of which Frank Talbott is president and Frank Tate vice-president, and was constructed at a cost of nearly \$50,000. The seating capacity is 1,050, and the admission ten cents. The grounds are leased for twenty-five years.

Moving pictures are very popular at the Mound City, which boasts of a number of fine places of exhibition, including the Bijou-Dream and Lyric, owned by the Bijou Amusement Co.; the Lyceum, owned by Messrs. Crawford and Talbott, and the Gem, owned by the Olive Amusement Co.

The Lyceum theater has 800 plush seats, and is handsomely appointed, the interior being decorated in gold. Its net profits for one year were \$55,000.

The new Gem is exhibiting first run independent films, the service being supplied by the Kleine Optical Co.

The Bijou Dream has talking moving pictures.

WELLS' NEW LYRIC "A DREAM."

Atlanta Constitution Says "Words Cannot Do It Justice." Candy Kid Opens to Capacity.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Sept. 21.

Jake Wells has added another house to his circle and on Thursday night opened to the public the Lyric, Atlanta's greatest play house. The Lyric is described by the Atlanta Constitution in these words: "The Lyric is a dream. It is something new in theaters. It is near. It meets a demand. It will be popular. Words cannot do it justice. If you want to know all about it, go see for yourself."

The Lyric combines all the latest improvements known to the art of theater builders. The comfort of the playgoers is looked after everywhere, and so artistic are all the arrangements as to please the most fastidious. The seats and panels are of dark walnut and the decorations are simple, yet beautiful.

The Lyric could not be more fortunate in a location. It is convenient to the leading hotels, cafes and clubs, and ample facilities for handling the crowds after the performances is offered in an up-to-date car service, the main line of which passes the Lyric's doors.

The house was opened with *The Candy Kid* and an immense audience greeted the players. Speeches and talks were given by promoters, citizens and others. It was a grand night in Atlanta.—TURLEY.

Louisville Notes.

At Macauley's theater the *Marigold* opened to good business Monday—two performances will be given. The last half of the week *A Stubborn Cinderella* is the attraction. Advance sale good.

At the Avenue theater, *Shadowed by Three* is doing a big business; in fact turning them away.

At the Buckingham theater (Whallen Bros.) the popular *Empire Burlesques* are enjoying a banner business the current week. Many new features are introduced.

At the Mary Anderson theater vaudeville is still the popular card here and is doing a good business.

All moving picture shows report excellent patronage.—J. S. SHALLCROSS.

Does Jim Crow Law Hold Here. Asks Patron.

Monmouth, Ill., Sept. 17.

If J. Thomas Wallace, a colored man, wins his suit against Manager E. J. Conrad, of the Lyric theater, here, it will definitely settle the Jim Crow law so far as local theaters are concerned.

Wallace, because he was told, so it is alleged, to keep in the box seats which were sold him, or leave the theater, has begun a suit for \$200 damages. Manager Conrad, it is said, has endeavored to treat both colored and white people alike, but he divided the seats, giving the best, it is claimed, to the colored patrons. Wallace, according to the story, was not satisfied with one of these and attempted to go elsewhere, in the house.

Selma (Ala.) Notes.

Selma, Ala., Sept. 19.

The Academy of Music, with Wm. Wilby, manager, opened the season 1903-1904, Sept. 2, with *Under Southern Skies*, to fair business. 10. Florence Davis in *Under the Greenwood Tree* to good business. 16. Fanny Rice to good business. 17. Tim Murphy in *Cupid and the Dollar*, to fair attendance.

The Amusement Theatatorium, with Tim O. Flinn, manager, opened again for the fall season, and is doing rushing business.—ED. LILIENTHAL.

Bittner Engaged at Altoona.

Altoona, Pa., Sept. 22.

Mr. William J. Bittner, who has been doing the baritone singing for the moving pictures at the Lyric theater in Uniontown, Pa., and who has many friends among the vaudeville profession whom he met while in Uniontown, has been engaged in the same capacity for the time theater in this city where his work is much appreciated.—WESTBROOK.

KILLS HIMSELF ON EVE OF WEDDING

George Price, a Young Oklahoman with Cummins' Wild West Show at Liverpool, Commits Suicide.

Liverpool, Eng., Sept. 9.

On the eve of his marriage George Price, twenty-two years old, who hailed from Oklahoma and who was connected here with the Cummins' Wild West Show, committed suicide Wednesday afternoon by placing the muzzle of a Springfield rifle in his mouth and, by means of a wire attached to the trigger and a post, blew the entire top of his head off.

On the morning of the same day, accompanied by his sweetheart, a young woman named Margaret Riley, who was employed in a near-by restaurant, he visited the registrar's office and obtained his marriage license and then proceeded to the jeweler's and purchased a wedding ring.

His sweetheart shortly after entered the grounds on his covered body was being removed to the morgue. No possible reason has been adduced to account for the suicide, except perhaps the fact that one of the witnesses at the inquest swore that Price told her he had recently lost between forty and fifty dollars in cash from his vest pocket. An investigation of his personal effects failed to produce any money whatever, and a subscription among the boys was taken up to defray the expenses of the funeral on Saturday morning, and it was attended by all the Wild West (Indians included), the cowboys acting as pall bearers, and the band playing a funeral march. The peculiar nature of the people following the corpse to the grave, together with the music, had filled the streets of New Brighton to their utmost by a curious crowd of sightseers. At the grave the regulation funeral service was read by the pastor of one of the local churches. Price was formerly connected with the Pawnee Bill Show.

The Cummins' Wild West Show at New Brighton Tower is still drawing large crowds, and giving the satisfaction that is usual to this style of entertainment in England. Lou Reynolds and his wife, "Texana," of the Cummins' Wild West Show, have been offered some very flattering engagements in the music halls to do their shooting and roping act, and no doubt they will accept at the end of the present season, October 3rd.

The style of performance given by Reynolds and "Texana" is peculiarly adapted to stage work, and nothing could be more popular with English audiences than the performance given by them. They have with them a full set of scenery and the entire equipments, electrical and otherwise, and their shooting act as well as their roping act is particularly popular with managers and public alike.

Many Coming Home.

There is very little to be said at this season of the year that would not be a repetition of what has been written times without number. Slowly the boys are going home as the cold weather gives evidence of approaching. Tomorrow Ralph Veve, George Kiley, and Frank Marton and wife, who have been engaged with the Wild West, leave for Philadelphia. No doubt when the season closes a majority of the boys will return to the states by the same route, as Philadelphia offers many advantages as a place to land.

Weather conditions continue fairly favorable, although we suffered somewhat last week from rain and cold, still we have nothing to complain of on the season as a whole, and should it become necessary to close the Tower Park before the date settled, everybody will find themselves with a bit to the good with which to feed the babies in the winter.—EFFAYSES.

PLAN BIG RESORT ON COAST.

Half Million to Be Spent on a "Coney Island" at Alameda, Cal.

Los Angeles, Sept. 20.

One of the greatest amusement resorts on the Pacific Coast will be established on the beach at Alameda within a few months, according to a statement made by President William Hammond of the Alameda Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Hamond announces that the money had all been subscribed for the place, which will cost nearly half a million dollars. Further than that, it will extend along the beach for a distance of 700 feet, and will embrace all the most modern devices for amusement; no details will be given out at present.

The water at Alameda beach is from 10 to 12 degrees warmer than at any of the southern bathing resorts, and the beach is surpassed by none, according to Hammond, who says that he will establish a Coney Island of the West that will cause every city on the coast to point to Alameda as the great place to be amused.

Fire Show for Seattle.

Messrs. Tate and Talbott, of St. Louis, have concluded arrangements for the presentation of Fighting the Flames at the Seattle Exposition. During a chat at the general offices of THE SHOW WORLD in Chicago last week Mr. Talbott stated that the fire show at Seattle would probably eclipse anything of its character heretofore attempted in this country.

PARK ASSOCIATION TO DO OWN BOOKING

National Outdoor Amusement Organization Meets At New York And Plans For Next Season.

New York, Sept. 18.

The regular annual meeting and election of officers of the National Amusement Park Association was held at the Hotel Knickerbocker Thursday afternoon, Sept. 17. Members present in person or by proxy were: J. J. Weaver, Lagoon, Covington, Ky.; J. H. Pratt, assistant general manager of the United Railways Electric Co., Baltimore, Md.; R. P. Stevens, president Lehigh Valley Transportation Co., Allentown, Pa.; E. B. Kinsila, general manager, Dreamland, Coney Island, New York; H. R. Fehr, manager Easton Amusement Co., Easton, Pa.; B. L. Peer, assistant secretary Ontario Beach Amusement Co., Rochester, N. Y.; H. E. Reynolds, assistant manager Boston Northern Railway Co., Boston, Mass.; Frank Gray, manager Luna Park, Schenectady, N. Y.; Paul Boynton, manager Steeplechase Island, Bridgeport, Conn.; R. A. Harrington, manager Rocky Point, Providence, R. I.; D. C. McMonagle, general manager Walkill Transit Co., Middletown, N. Y.; V. M. Gray, secretary and treasurer National Park Association, and John C. Jackel, booking manager. Len B. Sloss, Luna Park, Scranton, Pa., and A. J. Voyer, of Alto Park, Albany, N. L., were represented by proxies.

J. R. Pratt, president of the association, called the meeting to order and the reports of the year's business were read and approved. The annual election of officers was held with the following result: President, J. J. Weaver; vice-president, A. S. McSwigon, Pittsburg, Pa.; secretary and treasurer, V. M. Gray. An advisory board was selected as follows: Len B. Sloss, R. P. Stevens and H. R. Fehr.

Amendments to the constitution and by-laws were adopted eliminating the initiation fee of \$50 and reducing the annual dues from \$25 to \$5 per year. It was also decided to open the membership to include managers and lessees as well as owners of park enterprises.

Will Book Through Association.

J. J. Weaver, the newly elected president of the association, in conversation with THE SHOW WORLD representative, said that the association had accomplished the objects for which it was organized:

"The best evidence of this is found in the fact that we have not lost a single member," he said with evident satisfaction. "We started in with the purpose of obtaining our circus and vaudeville attractions at the very best price. The inducement offered to performers to give us their lowest was long consecutive time and short jumps. In this respect we have been successful."

"The only trouble we had," continued Mr. Weaver, "was with some of the vaudeville agents who started out to put the association out of business. We announced at the beginning that we would take acts from all agents, but we soon found that when we asked them for a price, they would turn around and offer the same act to our members at a lower price than they had quoted us. Of course we advised our members to go ahead and contract for the lowest price, but when they tried to do so it was found that the agent could not deliver the goods. This state of affairs forced us to go into the booking business, after which we had no further trouble."

"Next season we will be in the game stronger than ever. We will book everything for our members through this office, which is under the management of Mr. John C. Jackel, and further than that we will, to a large extent, be our own producers, to the extent of organizing summer opera and musical comedy companies to play our own parks."

"Within a week or so I will start on a tour of the United States and Canada in the interests of the association and expect to visit every point of importance from Boston to Seattle, Oregon. I want to get in touch with the situation on the coast with a view to forming an alliance with the park interests there. It will strengthen our position in the field of outdoor amusements to work with the managers of the far west."

"Our membership, at present, includes the parks of the best character. Most of our members are managers and representatives of the traction parks. These are the most substantial as they are backed by big street railway corporations. Performers and concession men prefer to do business with parks of that character because their money is sure. With the traction park as the backbone of our organization we are sure to build it up this coming season to splendid proportions."

Mr. Weaver, the newly elected president of the National Park Association, is well fitted for the position on account of his long experience in park management and equipment. As principal owner of Ludlow Lagoon, Ludlow, Ky., he has built up one of the most successful summer parks in the country. As a builder of park amusement devices, especially the water chute, he has been equally successful. Under his management the success of the National Amusement Park Association is assured.—HOFF.

NEW PARK AT CHARLESTON, W. VA.

Corporation Files Papers with \$50,000 Behind Project for a White City at Dunbar.

Charleston, W. Va., Sept. 22.

Incorporation papers for the establishment of the White City, the Coney Island of West Virginia, have been taken out at the office of Secretary of State Swisher by Charleston business men who propose to establish, equip and conduct an amusement park at Dunbar, five miles south of Charleston.

The capital stock of the company behind the project is \$50,000. The incorporators are R. S. Carr, N. S. Burley, G. H. Shrewsbury, L. J. Falone, Fred Paul Grosseup and Upshur Higginbotham.

Will Franklin Leave Wallace?

(Special Dispatch to SHOW WORLD.)

Varparaiso, Ind., Sept. 23.

There is a story going the rounds here to the effect that W. E. Franklin, who owns a magnificent country estate near this place, and who for a number of years has been general agent for the Wallace show, will sever his connections with that organization at the conclusion of the present season.

A report that your correspondent has been unable to confirm is that Franklin will become affiliated with the Buffalo Bill show or will have a large personal interest in a new organization.

Hines Secures Royal Service.

The moving picture business in Chicago has received a heavy impetus with the opening of the fall season, and all places of exhibition are being well patronized.

One of the most popular resorts in Chicago is the Senate theater, on West Madison street, under the management of George Hines. The Senate is a handsome theater, and Mr. Hines has built up a heavy clientele on the west side, giving one of the best shows in the city. Mr. Hines uses all first run films, and is very discriminating in the choice of subjects. His service is being supplied by the Royal Film Exchange.

New Film Factory.

The Centaur Film Co., of Bayonne, N. J., is a new factor in the manufacture of original film subjects.

BOSTON'S PARK ENDS IN BLAZE OF GLORY

Wonderland at Revere Beach Has Grati-fying Season Despite Business Depression in East.—Closes with Big Spectacular Show.

Boston, Sept. 23.

Despite the general business depressions in New England Wonderland, the immense electrical park down by the sea at Revere beach, closed a most gratifying season last Sunday evening. This date was two weeks later than last season's.

The attractions have been the very best that Manager John J. Higgins could secure. The Pawnee Bill Wild West Show with a company of fifty Indians, as many cowboys and a half dozen girl bronco busters, have been a big feature. Miss Annette Kellerman, known as the "Australian Mermaid," has easily been the biggest individual outdoor attraction in New England. Washburn's Paradise, Manning's Darktown, Darling's dog and pony circus, Till's Royal Marionettes, Mikado fun palace, Pilgrim's Progress, Human Laundry, House Jack Built, and an extraordinary number of riding devices such as the scenic railway, the chutes, hell gate, velvet coaster, Love's journey with honeymoon tunnel, the little railway, and roller skating rink were the other attractions.

Spectacular Show is Wind-Up.

As the crowning feature of the season was presented a spectacular show of wondrous beauty, full of fascinating life and of marvelous and novel light and color effects. It was fittingly entitled Alice in Wonderland" and enlisted the services of a company of about one hundred persons of which sixty were singing and dancing girls and character types. The production was based upon Lewis Carroll's story book of the same name and the fairy sentimental, romantic tone of the tale was admirably retained throughout the entire show. It was in the open-air, all of it, and was absolutely free to all within the gates of Wonderland.

The first part of the entertainment consisted of a glittering parade on the board walk around the great lagoon in the center of which a ship of goodly proportions had been constructed. After going aboardship Alice, standing at the wheel like Ixion, reviewed her retinue and watched the dancing and all sorts of merry making. The final was a superb tableau of marvelous beauty with a battle of roses and confetti.

Attracts Big Crowds.

The costuming throughout was superb and costly and the whole production of the most sumptuous sort. It attracted and was witnessed by satisfied and delighted thousands every night. It was presented only in the evening at 8:30 o'clock, a most convenient hour for the residents of the immense thickly settled section of greater Boston, though many hundreds came every night from far-away points.

The production was in charge of Assistant General Manager Eugene L. Perry, with John J. Coleman as ballet master and Lawrence B. O'Connor as musical director, a trio of experts in the local fields. The universal verdict of press and public was of unstinted praise for every detail of the show and for its general, refining, highly entertaining character. The whole, snappy performance was given within a half hour so that no serious objection could be made from the concessionaires in Wonderland, who, of course, profited by the great attendance difficult to attract in any other way during the closing days of the park, for two weeks after Labor Day, which usually marks the end of the out of doors season in the vicinity of Boston.

PARK MANAGER REMEMBERED.

Fred H. Camp Presented with Shot Gun by Employees and Concessionaires at Minneapolis.

Minneapolis, Sept. 18.

There was plenty doing when the Wonderland park at Minneapolis closed, Monday night. Fred H. Camp, manager of Wonderland, met with a surprise when he started to pull off a little post-season party for the park employees. In the course of the proceedings he was cornered and presented with about \$100 worth of shotgun and case, as a token of regard from the park employees and concessionaires. Charles Castleman, the park announcer, made the presentation speech, while C. W. Mahler of St. Paul replied on behalf of the speechless Mr. Camp. Likewise Bruno Schubert, park gardener, shot off a few oratorical roman candles. W. R. Gitt, lessee of the refreshment privileges, was also remembered by his employees. Their gift was a pair of diamond-studded cuff links. Dr. Dietrich made the presentation. The party behind the gates, now boarded up for the season, was a gay one.—F. E. FOSTER.

Sam C. Haller In Chicago.

Sam C. Haller, who has been identified with eastern amusement interests during the past summer, arrived in Chicago Friday, Sept. 20, and is making his temporary headquarters at the Sherman house. It is not improbable that Mr. Haller will be connected with the Seattle Exposition next year, but he is not ready at this time to announce his plans.

SAVAGE AND BLOCK HAVE DEVILS HERE

Chicago Critics Like the Authorized Version of Molnar Play But Say Mac Larnie is Best as Satan.

Authorized and unauthorized Devils are attracting the cold coin of the realm from Chicagoans' pockets. Henry W. Savage's Devil, with sworn statements from the author, came to the Chicago Opera house and they needed a detail of police to keep the anxious audience from stirring up a riot in front of the box office.

Will J. Block also has a version of the Devil and, Block-hat, he claims it to be the real and only true version of the Molnar play secured from the author's agents in Vienna. Block evidently intended that the public that went to see his Devil at the Fine Arts Music Hall, which has become the Fine Arts theater, would get their money's worth, for those that attended the premier and had patience stayed until it finished a half hour after midnight.

The Thannhouser stock company at Bush theater beat Col. Savage to it in producing the Devil in Chicago and one of the newspaper critics have put it down that Henry E. Dixey as the Devil was not to be compared with the suave, distinguished, authoritative and highly legitimate study given by Mr. MacLarnie at Bush temple.

Here are excerpts from Chicago critics' comparisons of the Devils that are in our midst or have been here:

James O'Donnell Bennett, Record-Herald—The performance of the play at the Chicago Opera house is better—partly because it is shorter than the Music Hall performance—but it still is inadequate. Henry E. Dixey as the Devil was not fluent in his lines. * * * His portrayal verges almost as far upon farce as Mr. Spencer's does on melodrama. Neither of them is to be compared with the suave, distinguished, authoritative and highly legitimate study given by Mr. MacLarnie at the Bush.

Burns Mantle, Tribune—The translation made for Mr. Savage by Oliver Herford is, from curtain to curtain, freer from offense than either of the unauthorized versions, because several raw speeches have been cut and because it is more deftly done and more intelligently staged and acted. It is good to see Henry Dixey again toying with a role that is worthy of the art he might have lived to glorify had he so elected. * * * His dress suit satan is devilishly clever, alert, impressive, dominating.

Charles W. Collins, Inter Ocean—"Mr. Dixey humanizes the Devil by making him smoothly comic. * * * Yet he makes broad concessions to the theatricalism of the role. * * * Mr. Dixey is better in the lighter moods of the devil; the more somber passages are not clothed with strong diabolic authority."

Forrest Arden, Examiner—"Henry E. Dixey, who used to be Adonis—and we never will be able to forget it—is now Henry W. Savage's devil. Mr. Dixey is a deuce of a good devil. * * * To the impudent assurance of Dr. Miller, the devil, he adds a suavity and polish which make the comedy of the part exquisite, and serves materially in convincing you that Dr. Miller really was a devil of a man."

O. L. Hall, Journal—"As devils go, both the new arrivals have their good points. It seems to be the object of each player to make his devil as different from the others as possible. That of MacLarnie was more the polished cynic, that of Spencer is more the operative devil, that of Dixey is more the smooth and wicked wag. There was more of steely sharpness in MacLarnie's impersonation than in the other two, there is more of good elocution in Spencer's, and there is more of grace, humor and personality in Dixey's. Of the three versions of the play, that given at Bush Temple was the finest in literary quality. Otherwise there is little difference in the three versions. What important difference there is, is in the interpretation."

Percy Hammond, Post—"The more beguiling Devil of the two has his seat at the Chicago Opera house. He is personated by Mr. Henry E. Dixey, a facile and skillful actor who pictures him as a suave and easy man of the world engaged in the business of wrecking the decalogue as a diversion. * * * Not as a cynical, sinister, hating Devil, but as a delectable sort of person with a nice sense of humor—who does not take himself and his game too seriously. At the Music Hall Mr. George Soule Spencer reveals Satan as a very obvious, insistent, earnest Devil, with a mission—a hand-rubbing, prestidigitator, too sneering to be attractive, and much like the conventional villain in the play. Mr. Spencer endeavors to make the character a preachment evidently; Mr. Dixey aims to entertain."

GOLLMAR TO CLOSE AT MINNEAPOLIS.

Will Appear at Auditorium Under Auspices of Local Lodge of Elks Thanksgiving Week.

Minneapolis, Minn., Sept. 24.

A persistent rumor is afloat here that the Gollmar Bros. Shows will appear in Minneapolis Thanksgiving week at the Auditorium, under the auspices of the local lodge of Elks, closing the season of 1908 at this point.

WILL INSTALL STOCK AT NATIONAL THEATER

New House in Englewood Leased by Edwin Clifford to Be Opened the First Week in December.

High class stock will be installed at the New National theater on Halsted, near Sixty-third street, when it opens its doors to the public some time about the first week of December, according to Edwin Clifford, the lessee and manager, who is just back from New York where he mixed business with his annual holidays.

The building, when completed, will be a landmark in that section of the city. It will be a magnificent structure and every modern appliance that will tend towards the safety and comfort of the auditors is being installed. The design is the new German style with three large exterior panels of painted mural decorations in the beautiful white glazed terra cotta facade.

The vestibules and lobbies will be finished in Italian marble while the interior decorations will be beautiful as well as substantial. It is estimated that over \$200,000 will be expended before the doors are open.

The building is being constructed by the Englewood Stock company, which is composed of a hundred or more mer-

chants in the immediate vicinity. Aside from the Marlowe, which is located about a mile away, there isn't a theater within four miles of the New National.

Mr. Clifford, the manager and lessee, has a ten year's lease on the new house. With this latest venture on his hands, he will be one of the busiest men in the theatrical business in Chicago. He is treasurer of the Central States Circuit, a partner in the producing firm of Rowland and Clifford, and is a large stockholder and active worker in the National Association of Producing Managers' Association.

While it is definitely settled that a high class stock company will be installed at the New National, yet Manager Clifford told a SHOW WORLD representative that he has been so busy with other ends of his business that he has not had the time to shape up the policies that he has in mind for his new house.

It is his intention, however, to secure the best company that he can gather together and produce the best royalty plays of the season.

Acts New to Chicago.

George H. Holcombe, Miss Anna Woodward and the Rube Band were seen for the first time on any stage at the Olympic theater this week. The act opens to a full stage and represents a room above the fire engine house in a village. The Rube Band has been rehearsing for some time and an uncle of George Holcombe, who besides holds every available public office in the village, informs the members of the band that Holcombe has a concert in a nearby town, and as soon as it is over he will come to their city and put them through some of the latest city songs.

Later Holcombe enters and doffs an automobile coat and displays a pretty uniform of white. He immediately starts the "rehearsal." For discord and arguments there could be no better crowd gathered together. After many minutes he succeeds in getting a torture of harmony, and Miss Anna Woodward, who

was left in the automobile by Holcombe, makes her appearance and again more comedy is given. Attention from every one in the band are offered and her escort seems to have been the victim of a conspiracy to rob him of the lady.

Miss Woodward sang several songs that were well received. The act is supposed to run thirty minutes, but never yet has it quit on time. Last Tuesday night it ran twelve minutes over, and they were forced to repeat the finale. The act was given twelve curtains. It is full of screams and the audience was in a continuous uproar for the entire time it was on the stage.

Kountry Kids, the noisiest bunch of kids that ever held the stage at the Majestic theater. They open in a full stage and each tries to vie with the other in dancing and singing. Their songs are good and were well liked. There are nine in the act and eight of them are rollicking kids.

F ACTS-FADS-FANCIES OF CHICAGO'S RIALTO

Chicago critics have delved deep to find the Real Devil.

Alice Hageman has assumed the part of Queen Aurora in The Top O' Th' World, lately played by Ada Deaves.

Earnest C. Smith and Walter L. Rector, known as Smith and Rector, tight wire artists, are in Chicago booking their act.

My Boy, a piece dealing with some typical Americans abroad is among the new plays Chicago will be the first to see. It is the work of Rupert Hughes.

The Top O' Th' World celebrated its 100th performance at the Studebaker by presenting every woman auditor a copy of the new book, The Top O' Th' World.

Col. Brayden, who only a few years ago was Henry Savage's general manager, is now promoting the publicity for The Top O' Th' World.

The Scott Sisters opened a 12 weeks' engagement on the Iowa circuit for the Western Vaudeville Managers' Association.

Miss F. Blanche Maxwell and Master Charles Steed, vocalists, are a feature at the Majestic theater, a moving picture house located at 38th and Cottage Grove avenue, where they are proving very popular.

It is reported that Colonel John D. Hopkins, the amusement magnate, is convalescing after many weeks' illness and has been at Young's Hotel, Atlantic City, the past two weeks. Previous to that time he was in a sanitarium at St. Louis.

Joseph Medill Patterson's novel, A Little Brother of the Rich, is being dramatized by the author, and is scheduled for a first performance in the Grand opera house, Chicago, in January.

The Studebaker will be in darkness next week. The Top O' Th' World starts on its road tour Sunday and Fritz Scheff and company will rehearse The Prima Donna at that house. The new comic opera will be given its premier here Oct. 6.

Marion and Victoria Murray—the Murray Sisters—who are at the Majestic this week, evidently believe that vaudeville devotees enjoy "just American girls, singing American songs." From the reception given by the press and public these charming girls are on the right track.

William Taylor, who was in the cast of The Heart of Maryland in Belasco's re-

cent revival of that play, has been engaged by Mort Singer to replace Hamilton Coleman, temporarily playing Col. Higginson in A Girl at the Helm. Mr. Coleman returns to his duties as general stage manager of that theater.

The Western Vaudeville Managers' Association has taken charge of Premier vaudeville house, corner of Fifth and Joplin streets, formerly Wasson's theater, and on October 15 will present their first production. The house was formerly managed by Oscar Wasson, who will not engage in the theatrical business this year.

William Faversham will follow Lew Fields at the Garrick with The World and His Wife, by Charles Frederick Nordinger. This is the play that Mr. Faversham tried out in Boston last season. Mr. Faversham's company will include Julie Opp, Nellie Thorne, Olive Oliver, H. Cooper Cliff, Charles Harbury and Morton Selton.

Despite the wave of hot weather Howland and Clifford, who have three companies of Jane Eyre, and The Phantom Detective, on the road, report big business. The latter show is playing in the Wells circuit and will play Chicago during the week of Oct. 18-25. Jane Eyre with Cuba Niblo in the title role, plays Chicago at the Columbus and Criterion, Oct. 4-11.

Lotta Faust admitted to a Chicago police magistrate the other day that she once read the bible but she spoiled the confession by admitting that she forgot what it was about. Lotta was subpoenaed to testify as an expert on the Salome dance, which was given on some moving pictures at a stag at festivities in honor of the promotion of a police lieutenant to captaincy.

Henry Miller will produce another play from the pen of Charles Ram Kennedy. It is entitled The Winter Feast. This piece was written by Mr. Kennedy prior to writing The Servant in the House and is in almost antithetical style. The Winter Feast is said to be picturesque in the extreme. Its scenes are laid in Iceland, when Druidism still lingered there. A powerful figure in it is that of an Icelandic priest of the old religion.

Hundreds of stage folk attended the minstrel performance given by the chorus and dancers of The Top O' Th' World company at the Studebaker after the regular performance last Saturday evening. One of the cleverest numbers was Checkers Von Hampton's imitation of Eddie Leonard. Eddie was present and howled with delight. "If I am half as funny as

PREDICTS A BRIGHT THEATRICAL SEASON

James D. Barton, Gotham Representative of National Printing Co., Sees Great Outlook for Theaters.

James D. Barton, New York representative of the National Printing Co., and by special appointment from Henry W. Savage, official printer to the Devil, arrived in Chicago Saturday morning, Sept. 19, to attend the Henry Dixie attack at the Chicago Opera house that evening. In an interview with a representative of THE SHOW WORLD regarding a pessimistic conditions in New York and east, Mr. Barton said:

"With the resumption of activity in the manufacturing field the working classes are again patronizing amusement resorts, and all branches of entertainment are being benefited. There is every evidence of good crops, and when this money gets in circulation and the election is over, a decided improvement will take place and normal prosperity be restored.

"All things considered, the higher priced theaters are faring well. Of course New York managers are favored by being able to purvey to hundreds of thousands of transients who visit the metropolis daily, and who are not averse to spending their money."

Mr. Barton states that the park season just closed in New York was not at all satisfactory, but from reports he had received from all parts of the country, this condition was generally prevalent. Mr. Barton returned to New York on the 20th Century Limited Monday afternoon, Sept. 21.

Virginia Open Again.

The license of the Virginia theater, which was revoked last week because of alleged violations of the fire department rules, has been restored by Mayor Busse.

Iola (Kans.) Notes.

The Majestic theater, which is the Bachelor, remodeled, opened last night, Sept. 14, with the Olympic Stock Company to full capacity. This house will run light musical comedy throughout the season.

The Grand theater announce their intention of running stock five nights in the week and a big show on the remaining night.—BRET HARRIS.

that," said Eddie, after looking at the imitation, "then I am going to demand more money before I leave Chicago."

"Bud" Evans says that The Time, The Place and The Girl and The Girl Question are scoring big out in California. They are being received royally by the critics and are playing to stuffed up houses. The Time, Place and the Girl company is at Los Angeles this week and next week moves up to Frisco to the house where The Girl Question has been playing, while the latter show goes back to the house that the other Askin-Singer show vacates at Los Angeles. "Bud" says that the panicky times are apparently over out on the Coast and that the presidential election is having no ill effects upon the show business in that section of the country.

Every great comedian seems to be imbued with the idea that he is better fitted for tragedy. This seems to follow with the authors of musical comedy, for a number of them are attempting to write a serious play. George Cohan is in this class. "Of course I want to write a drama," admitted Cohan in an interview with Burns Mantle. "But I know that I can't do it as I do the musical comedy thing. I want to write a regular play, a sane play, about things I know and the people I know. Maybe it will be nothing more than a farce or a light comedy, but I want it to be well done. I can construct it; I can get them on and off; I know that they won't be down town without having time to get back. But I want it to be good besides being well constructed. And when I do it I want to have six months or a year to work on it. I want to be right."

CORRESPONDENTS WANTED.

Newspaper Men Preferred.

THE SHOW WORLD is desirous of securing representatives in every section of the United States and Canada and to that end correspondence is invited from young men of good personal address in all communities not yet covered by this journal. We want energetic, wide-awake correspondents of business ability who will, acting as absolutely impartial observers of events, provide us with the latest and most reliable news of amusement happenings in their locality. Excellent opportunity. Liberal commissions. For particulars address Correspondence Editor, THE SHOW WORLD, Chicago.

PATRONS MUST COME EARLY OR
LOSE SEATS.

Baton Rouge Will Enforce Law Forbidding Persons Taking Seats at Theater After Curtain Rises.

Notwithstanding the fact that the law only takes in cities of 50,000, Baton Rouge will enforce the law prohibiting persons taking seats at the theater after the rise of the curtain.

The Baton Rouge State-Times says: "You will have to be on hand at the beginning of a performance this theatrical season. If you wish to secure a seat you must be in the theater before the curtain rises."

Manager Walter Fowler of the Elks theater will strictly enforce this year the Byrne act passed by the last session of the General Assembly, which prohibits a person from taking a seat and disturbing the performance for persons already seated after the curtain has risen on an act.

This law was passed for the benefit of New Orleans, but what is good for New Orleans is good for Baton Rouge and the management of the Elks theater will see that no person is seated during the performance this year.—LUEHM.

Chattanooga Notes.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Sept. 21.

There was a comparatively quietness in local amusement circles during the week just passed. The Shubert remained closed all week up to Saturday matinee, when Hortense Neilson and company came in for matinee and night performances. At the matinee A Doll's House was the bill, and in this Miss Neilson was seen to great advantage. Of course, she is the "whole show," but not to such an extent to cause the audience to grow tired of her work. Miss Neilson has not been seen before, and for this reason, perhaps, did not have the patronage her work deserved. However, she made many admirers, and when she again visits Chattanooga professionally it is safe to predict that her personality alone will draw well. At night Magda was given, and again Miss Neilson was at her best. The character of "Magda," particularly bad to interpret, seemed to present but very little obstacle to Miss Neilson's interpretation. There was absolutely no "ranting," just smooth, even every-day talk, such as natural human beings would have indulged in under the circumstances in which "Magda" found herself. Those who say Miss Neilson were more than pleased with the two shows given.

At the Bijou the Phantom Detective held sway all week and had good audiences at each of the nine performances. The work of Tommy Smith and Pearl Evans stood out in the cast of the detective, though all those taking part in the production did well in the parts assigned them, according to the local press. The American Newsboys Quartette, the Hall Sisters and Traub Brixton, in specialties were well received.

The Orpheum and Crescent theaters, vaudeville, continue to have their usual amount of patronage, though the "regular" houses necessarily make inroads on the extra patronage going to the vaudeville during the off season.

For this week The Little Organ Grinder at the Bijou opened to good house to night. This play is of the melodramatic order, though there are so many musical numbers in it that it really takes on, at times, the semblance of a musical comedy.

At the Shubert the Dandy Dixie Minstrels played to two good audiences—afternoon and night. The Dandy Dixies is one of the best all negro minstrels in this country, and includes in its make-up some of the very best negro artists appearing on the stage. Mr. John J. Nolen, one of its managers and owners, is among the premier promoters of colored shows, having founded the Black Patti Troubadours about fourteen years ago.

Tuesday, matinee and night, Cohan & Harris' Brewster's Millions company is at the Shubert. This company makes a jump of more than 300 miles in order to play Chattanooga. They are in Memphis Monday, jump here for Tuesday and then double back to Nashville on Wednesday. The routing agent said he considered Chattanooga one of the best show towns in the United States, and would make this long jump rather than miss playing here.—TURLEY.

Ottawa Notes.

Ottawa, Can., Sept. 20.

Cook and Clinton, two female sharp shooters, made their initial appearance on the Bennett circuit here last week, jumping from New York to open Monday. The act is composed of some novel trick shooting and the ladies are prettily attired in cowboy costumes.

Alex M. MacLachlan is here spending a few weeks after finishing up some time on the Park Booking Circuit, Inc. He is rehearsing a new dancing act with his brother, to be known as The MacLachlans.

Wonderland is running a fine line of film this week, among the big drawing cards is the Gans-Nelson fight. Big business has been the rule during the past week.

Willie Pantzer, of the Pantzer troupe of acrobats on the Bennett bill this week, has added another boy to his act.—W. J. DAVIDSON, JR.

SOUTHERN BUSINESS
GREATEST IN YEARS

Houses Enjoying Unprecedented Returns. Other Live News of Richmond And Other Points.

Richmond, Va., Sept. 23.

A review of the theatrical field in Virginia and the South Atlantic country for the two weeks that have passed since the opening of the regular season of 1908-09, discloses unprecedented conditions which have yet to be logically and satisfactorily explained.

With a presidential campaign in swing and the industrial and commercial conditions of the Southern country depressed to no inconsiderable degree below the situation as it stood last September, the theaters have been patronized better than in the same period in any year of the last decade.

Here in Richmond the largest industrial plants have been partly closed down since last spring. Many and varied enterprises which contribute to the circulation of money through their thousands of employees have shown curtailed payrolls for many months. Yet in the face of this the business of the amusement houses, never so numerous as this year, has been big from the opening of the new season. In several instances familiar attractions, on tour, have done the largest gross business this season they have ever found here.

From other points on the Leath circuit, the Wells Bijou circuit, and the Wilmer & Vincent chain, the same story comes. All of these theaters are floating on the crest of a wave of unlooked for prosperity.

The theatrical wiseacres, who were resigned to a philosophical anticipation of the usual depression which attends a national campaign season, are naturally jubilant. But they are turning one to another and asking: "What's the answer?"

Lubin Enters Richmond.

The Lubin theater, whose walls have been rapidly rising for three months, in Broad street, next door to the Bijou, is now under roof and will be thrown open to the public about Nov. 1. The new vaudeville and motion picture theater is built by M. Hofheimer, a local capitalist. It has been leased for ten years to Lubin. The site and building cost \$65,000. It is to be a dime theater.

New Manager for Colonial.

Frank D. Hill, the Nestor of the Wilmer & Vincent managerial staff, who directed the affairs of the Colonial vaudeville theater last season for Wilmer, Vincent & Wells, has been transferred to Reading, Pa. Ed F. Lyons, formerly manager of Keith's, Philadelphia, has succeeded him. Manager Lyons signalized his occupancy of the manager's office by springing a line of the most original and effective advertising schemes this staid old city has ever seen. The Colonial, under the new management, has broken all records. It is playing to capacity business twice daily. When a few seats are to be had after the first curtain, that's the exception. Joe Adams, formerly of the Wells Bijou circuit, is Lyons' treasurer.

Idlewood in Receivers' Hands.

Idlewood park, the summer amusement resort conducted by the Richmond Amusement Corporation, Jake Wells, president, has passed into the hands of receivers. It was established three years ago and had only one profitable season. That was last year. Jake Wells is said to have lost \$72,000 in his effort to maintain a first class summer park here. The receivership was by mutual consent. Accumulated back rent amounting to \$11,500 is due. The total assets and liabilities are unknown at this time.

Picture Shows Win Out Big.

The motion-picture craze shows no indication of abating.

The amusement seeking public seems to have a "yen" for the film shows that grows keener as the picture houses multiply. And they are multiplying rapidly. Most of these cheap amusement places are patronized by the better class of playgoers. The sidewalks in front of the ten-cent houses, which combine two or three vaudeville acts with the picture exhibition, are usually blocked by waiting crowds from dusk to eleven o'clock. All of the picture theater men are winning out enormously on their investments. The returns would appear to the average theatrical investor extravagantly out of proportion to the amount invested. A store building leased and equipped at an outlay of \$1,200 or \$1,500 for this picture business usually returns a net profit of from \$500 to \$600 a week. Such is the record of the motion picture business in this city. Two years ago the first of these houses was opened here.

Giffen Owns Goodman's Play.

R. L. Giffen, formerly of Daniel Frohman's office staff, who has acquired control of The Right to Live, Jules Eckert Goodman's play dealing with New York's morals of today, announces that the production will be given its premiere at the Columbia theater, Oct. 26. The play received a tryout here last summer and was pronounced by the New York contingent of critics and producing managers who came down here to look it over, a

revelation in originality and dramatic merit. Daniel Frohman said of The Right to Live: "It is the strongest play I have read in ten years." Larry Giffen has thousands of friends and admirers in Richmond, who will rejoice with him in his good fortune. The play goes to Broadway after it has been whipped into form. Giffen will personally direct every detail of the production.

Fiske O'Hara, the Irish tenor, is featuring in his production of Dion O'Dare this season Merry Mary McNamara, a pretty waltz song, written by Robert Golden, dramatic editor of The News Leader.

"Punch" Wheeler's Queer Stunt.

The redoubtable "Punch" Wheeler, dean of American theatrical press agents since the retirement of the famous "Lody" Hamilton from the trail, has beat it to the southward after visiting with this man's town one whole and large week.

The agent-with-the-snow-white-locks-and-the-schoolboy's-face acted in a peculiar manner the day he struck town, which excited the apprehension of the local theatrical colony. He went to the Park hotel and registered as "Henry E. Wheeler." This suspicious circumstance caused Charlie McKee, manager of the Bijou, to shake his head dubiously and remark that something must be wrong with the Grand Old Man of the fold of press agents; else why should he be hiding his identity and traveling incog? Leo Wise, manager of the Academy of Music, and Ed F. Lyons, manager of the Colonial, expressed the opinion that writing the weird, uncanny stuff that one must write in describing the exploits of Thurston, the magician, necromancer, prestidigitator, illusionist, levitationist, theosophist, demonstrator of psychics—and then some—had certainly gone to "Punch's" white head.

Great was the relief of everybody when the fact was established later in the week by an investigating committee that the real name of the veteran agent is Henry E. Wheeler.

It has been long ago conceded by managers and agents that "Punch" Wheeler is the most widely known press agent in the world. But you might walk along Broadway, from Fourteenth to Sixtieth streets, today inquiring for "Henry E. Wheeler" and not one among the seventeen thousand intimate friends of the agent you will be sure to meet would recognize him by that name.

Did ever a "wizard show" before now have as its business representative a Shakespearean student, whose early training as an agent was with Edwin Booth, Lawrence Barrett, Thomas W. Keene, Adelina Patti, Mary Anderson and other artists of like calibre?

Richmond (Va.) Notes.

Richmond, Va., Sept. 22.

Academy, so far, has had the best season on record. Al Field Minstrels, Wednesday, matinee and night, S. R. O.; Lion and Mouse fair business Friday and Saturday.

Bijou theater played to big houses all week.

Colonial this week is drawing well with vaudeville.

Majestic theater is also doing well with vaudeville.—R. WAITT.

Spokane Notes.

Spokane, Wash., Sept. 20.

The Cat and the Fiddle, Coming Thro' the Rye and A Knight for a Day (the first time here), included the attractions for this week at the Spokane theater, all playing to good business. The Clansman follows to a large advance sale.

The Orpheum offers one of the best bills in point of variety ever seen here. Music being the predominating feature. Gennaro's band, twenty-five in number, is considered one of the best acts seen on a Western vaudeville stage. Manager Harrison states that the house has been sold out every night during the engagement.

The Three of Us is the bill at the Auditorium, by the Jessie Shirley Stock Company. Charles E. Gunn made his first appearance as leading man, and judging from the applause and local press, he will become a big favorite. After the first act, he was called upon to make a speech.

The Marvelous Sisters Yllerrone are top-liners at the Washington, and the entire bill is drawing good houses. Manager Blakeslee has been on the sick list for several days, but is now able to attend to his duties.

The Zingari Singers are headliners at Pantages, and are making a big hit. The balance of the show is making good.

William (Billy) Siebals, the popular superintendent at the Spokane theater, looks swell in his new dress suit, as he greets you at the door. There seems but one thing lacking. Manager Muchman should see that he wears a silk hat.—E. AXELSON.

John Drury is to appear with Valerie Bergere when she opens in vaudeville in November.

WOLVES PLAY PART
NOT ON THE PROGRAM.

Animal Actors Teased by Boys, Badly Lacerate the Offender and "Daniel Boone" Show Sacrifices Its Local Color.

Bloomington, Ind., Sept. 23.

Robert H. Harris sent to his home in this city eight wolves that took important parts in his play entitled Daniel Boone on the Trail. They were housed in an out-house at the Harris residence, and, of course, the small boy was on hand to see the show. One of them attempted to stir up the animals by prodding one of the larger wolves with a stick, whereupon the beast caught the boy's arm and forced it into the cage. The screams of the boy brought Miss Olive Leffler, sister-in-law of Mr. Harris, hastily to the rescue, and she made a heroic effort to beat the ferocious beast away. She was soon assisted by a man, who also came to the rescue, and the boy was released after his arm had been badly lacerated. Miss Leffler also received some painful injuries by the animal clawing her arm. It was a realistic drama, and Miss Leffler performed well the part of the heroine. The wolves arrived Sunday night and treated the citizens of the neighborhood with a genuine taste of back-woods life. When one wolf started one of those unearthly yells the other seven joined heartily in the chorus, and then the fifty dogs in the neighborhood came in with a series of yelps and howls that added to the pandemonium. Manager Sam B. Dill, when notified of the attack on the boy had the wolves taken to a deserted slaughter house, located about two miles from town. A telegram from Mr. Harris ordered the animals shipped to Huntington, West Va., where the Harris-Parkinson company was playing. Last season the same wolf attacked the Daniel Boone of the play as he entered the cage, and crippled him for a month.—HENRY J. FELTUS.

Jefferson City Notes.

Jefferson City, Mo., Sept. 21.

The Jefferson theater, under the management of Richard Asel, is again open. Little Johnny Jones played to a fair house Sept. 14. Latimore & Leigh are here for this week and Sept. 28. The Witching Hour will be presented.

The Jefferson City Aldome Co. closed its first season on Saturday night, Sept. 19. The season has been a very prosperous one. Manager Edwards deserves great credit for the able manner in which he has conducted the place.

McClisch Bros. have leased the Lohman Opera house and are remodeling the interior to make it suitable for a first class moving picture show house.—F. G. CHINN.

Fulton (Ky.) Notes.

The Cosmopolitan Carnival Co., with sixteen concessions, have perfected arrangements with the local council to give exhibitions here, commencing the 28th, for one week, and great preparations are being made by the young and old to enjoy themselves.

On Sept. 23 the Vendome will open the season of 1908-09, with W. T. McAdoo as manager, and will have for their opening bill Freda Semons' Sweetest Girl in Dixie. The manager informs the public that he anticipates a very successful season, as he has some of the best of companies booked already, and is negotiating with others.—WAYNE THOMAS.

Theater Closed by Constable.

Altoona, Pa., Sept. 21.

The Edisona theater, one of Altoona's moving picture houses, which has been conducted by Messrs. Robinson & Rhodes since April, 1906, in the Ebert building on Eleventh Ave., was closed on Saturday afternoon last by the owner of the building, John W. Ebert and Constable Chas. Luther on a writ of possession for alleged non-payment of rent. The furniture which consisted chiefly of theater seats and picture machines was taken out and stored in the storage building of the City Furniture Co. Whether the proprietors will reopen the Edisona is as yet undecided, but it is quite certain that a lawsuit will be instituted.—WEST-BROOK.

Capacity at Lake Charles.

Lake Charles, La., Sept. 17.

The 1908-09 theatrical season opened in this city last night with Under Southern Skies as the attraction. New Lyric theater was taxed to its capacity with an appreciative audience.

Outlook for a very successful season is most promising. Fully half a hundred good plays are booked.

Moving picture shows, three in number, and the pleasure resort, Shell Beach Casino, continue to draw a large patronage.—L. L. LUEHM.

St. Cloud (Minn.) Notes.

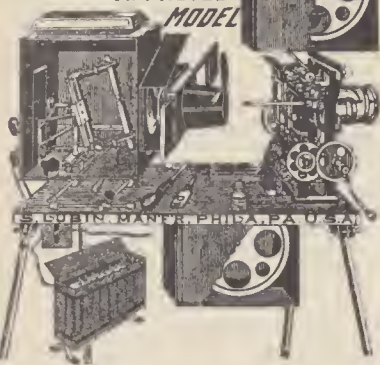
St. Cloud, Minn., Sept. 21.

The Davidson theater, under the able management of C. T. Davidson, has opened the season with the best line of attractions in the history of this play house.

Sept. 20, James Corbett, in Facing the Music, played to good business.

The Fifth Avenue theater, with motion pictures, and business is all that could be desired.—FRANK KINDLER.

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Equipped with improved Fire Magazines, Automatic Fire Shutter and Automatic Fire Shield (Lubin's patent) Asbestos Covered Wire Connections, new improved Lamp House, new style Fire-proof Rheostat, improved Electric Lamp. Complete with everything seen in the cut, including polished carrying case for Mechanism, including Adjustable Bicycle-steel Legs, \$145.00 to extend over 5 feet high

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Just what the name implies. His unfortunate failing gets him in all sort of trouble.

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A thief steals the overcoats of masqueraders which causes untold troubles.

Length 670 Feet

Wanted: A Military Man

Another screamer of the chase variety.

Length 250 Feet

ASSOCIATION FILMS

Among the late films released by the various manufacturers are:

The Leprechawn, Edison (1,000 feet).—Lord Craven, an Irish landlord, crossing the fields, sees pretty Nora hoeing potatoes—Makes advances, which are resented—Inflamed, he tries to kiss her—She slaps his face—His agent suddenly appears and demands the rent from Nora's mother—Craven arrives and offers to cancel the rent if Nora will listen to him—Barney happens along and answers for her—Craven retires with a sore head—Craven meets the witch-woman—She tells his fortune—It displeases him—Strikes her with his "crop"—She "puts a curse on him"—Nora starts out to sell potatoes with poor success—Disheartened—Meets Barney—He promises to catch a Leprechawn and get the money—Barney and Nora seek her aid—She works a charm, and gives Barney a charm for the Leprechawn—Barney starts on his errand—Reaches the fairy grove—Sees a Leprechawn at work—Tries to catch—Gives him the charm—Leprechawn leads Barney—Arrive at cave—Barney's eyes dazzled—Is offered snuff—Too wise—Refuses—Packs the gold—Barney loads—Fairy Queen waves her wand—And receives a fine new suit of clothes—And a beautiful horse—Sets off on his way to Nora—Lord Craven, in meantime, has soldiers evict Nora and her mother—Pleadings are vain—As soldiers about to move things Barney arrives—Pays the rent, demands and gets a receipt—Gloating over his money, Craven stops to count it—It turns to autumn leaves—Demands receipt from Barney—"Paid once, get out."

Buying a Title, Edison (935 feet).—A devoted couple decide to marry. Jack interviews Pa, but is told he wants a titled husband for his daughter and Jack retires downcast. Pa looks over an "assorted lot" of "Noblemen." They display their credentials and a French count is selected, and told to "call around" and meet his future wife. Nora, the maid of Jack's sweetheart, has a policeman lover, and between times entertains him. Jack is in her good graces and she arranges a meeting. The lovers are interrupted by the arrival of the Count's note stating his intended visit at 4 p. m. The lovers are disconcerted, but finally hit upon a plan of action. Nora enters into the spirit of the fun, and assumes the young lady's place and attires herself accordingly while the lovers dress as maid and butler. The Count arrives. Nora, as mistress receives him. He presses his suit ardently and Nora leads him on, while the hidden lovers enjoy the scene. The Count declares his undying love, and embraces Nora just as Dan, the policeman, arrives. His "Irish up," he "wipes the floor" with the Count and makes him "look like thirty cents" and finally throws him out, to the delight of Nora and the young couple.

Her Newsboy Friend, Vitagraph (985 feet).—A young workman and his sweetheart part at the factory gate. She proceeding to the office. While engaged at her work a villainous appearing man enters and asks a question. Just then a newsboy appears, and in answer the villain thrusts him aside with a kick when asked to purchase a paper. The girl calls the lad, buys a paper and divides her lunch. Later the villain is properly introduced and that evening sends a bunch of roses to the girl's home with his card attached. The workman lover sees the roses and leaves without seeing his sweetheart. The villain invites the girl to dine, and takes her to a disreputable cafe and when he attempts to make her drink she indignantly refuses and as he is about to detain her the newsboy appears and escorts

her home. The villain engages thugs to kidnap the girl. The newsboy overhears the plot. He notifies the police and they permit the whole scene to be enacted and then they arrest the villain and route the thugs. The newsies bring up the rear with the workman, who embraces his sweetheart.

Richard III, Vitagraph (900 feet).—The news of the loss of the battle of Tewkesbury is brought to the dethroned King Henry VI and at the same time he hears of the death of his son. The Duke of Gloucester (afterwards King Richard III) enters the tower and kills the imprisoned King Henry VI. The Duke stops the funeral procession of King Henry, woos and wins Lady Anne. Inside the palace Queen Elizabeth and the Duchess of York are weeping over the death of Edward IV. The little Prince of Wales on the throne is visited by his brother, the Duke of York. He jokingly makes a lamb of the Duke of Gloucester, who advises the two princes to live in a tower until the Prince of Wales is ready to be throned. The Duke of Gloucester, now married to Lady Anne, is offered the crown by the Lord Mayor of London and Duke of Buckingham and he accepts, ordering the two princes to be separated from their mother. The Duke of Buckingham refuses to kill them and King Richard bribes Sir James Tyrell and two of his followers to smother them. Richard, with his army on the way to battle, is halted by his mother, the Duchess of York, and Queen Elizabeth and cursed for his evil deeds. The closing scene is the battle of Bosworth Field, showing the death of Richard III and the crowning of the Earl of Richmond as Henry VII, King of England.

The Hat of Fortune, Lubin (450 feet).—A party traveling in the Orient buy all kinds of curios. Among them is a hat with a legend that gives luck to any one who can put it on. The purchaser tries it on but it flies off his head. After many funny wanderings the hat comes into the possession of a colored man upon whom fortune showers his fortune.

Heating Powder, Lubin (410 feet).—Professor Smarty invents a powder which heats everything it touches. His son decides to have some fun, and after getting a lot of laughs from it he finally burns his own face.

Old Sleuth, the Detective; Kalem.—This film has to do with our old friend bearing the title given above. He is always on the spot with his many disguises and is a terror to evildoers.

Paris Fire Brigade at Drille, Pathe (688 feet).—This film deals with the drilling of the firemen of Paris, who show how they save life and property.

Beginning of the Game of Diabolo, Pathe (328 feet).—The picture shows the craze that seems to have struck the country by storm from the royalty down to the commoners.

The Shepherdess, Pathe (754 feet).—The story of this picture deals with a shepherd girl and her wealthy lover who is married and turned out by her wealthy relatives and finally goes back to her sheep.

Unusual Cooking, Pathe (196 feet).—This colored picture shows some remarkable ingenuity in the line of trick photography.

Policeman's Vision, Pathe (623 feet).—The dream of a policeman is shown in this film and shows just how prolific the imagination of a sleeping policeman can be.

How Glue Is Made, Pathe (393 feet).—This picture is educational, for it shows the process of making glue from the time the bones are taken from the slaughtered animal up to the time it is prepared for shipment.

EDISON KINETOSCOPES

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MOST UP-TO-DATE MACHINE ON THE MARKET

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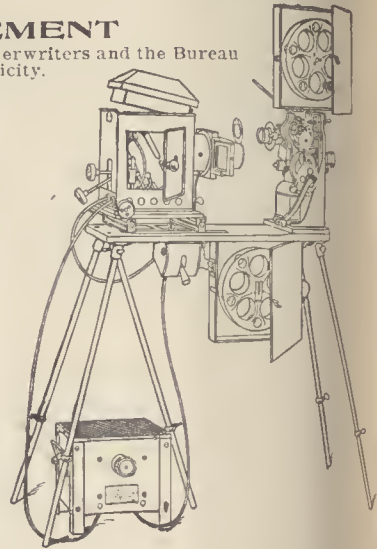
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EDISON FILMS

NEW FEATURE SUBJECTS:

For shipment September 22, 1908.

BUYING A TITLE

The story of a father's refusal to give his daughter's hand to Jack, and how the father's efforts to get a nobleman for his daughter were frustrated. A good little comedy. No. 6378.

Code, Velox. Approx. length, 960 feet. Send for illustrated descriptive circular No. 386.

For shipment September 25, 1908.

THE LEPRECHAWN

An Irish Fairy Story.

Certain to be a winning attraction at motion picture entertainments. No. 6379. Code, Veloxmante. Approx. length 1,000 feet. Send for illustrated descriptive circular No. 388.

NEXT WEEK'S SUBJECTS.

Shipment, Sept. 29.—Pocahontas, No. 6380, Code, Veltage, approx. length, 1,000 feet. Shipment, Oct. 2.—Ten Pickaninnies, No. 6381, Code, Velter, approx. length, 600 feet. Sandy McPherson's Quiet Fishing Trip, No. 6382, code, Veltours, approx. length, 425 feet.

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NEW YORK



Custom Officer's Revenge, Pathe (820 feet).—This is a thrilling picture of the experience of custom officers running down smugglers.

INDEPENDENT FILMS

Among the late films released by the Independent manufacturers are:

The Red Girl, Biograph (1,014 feet).—Kate Nelson, a girl miner, strikes rich paydirt and brings same to hotel after it was essayed. A Mexican woman who has just lost her money gets into Kate's room after she retires and robs her. In the chase the Mexican woman kills and wounds several from ambush. She is finally hidden by an Indian girl and her half-breed husband. The snortia induces the half-breed to kill his wife. Binding her hands, they take her to a large trunk of a dead tree and suspend her between water and sky. She frees herself, drops into the water and meets Kate and friends and volunteers to become their guide. They follow miscreants in canoe and when they get close, a hand to hand conflict follows. Both canoes are capsized and the struggles ends with overpowering of the pair and arrest of the Mexican Jezebel. The Indian girl repulses her half-breed husband, who endeavors to be forgiven.

The Heart of O Yama, Biograph (881 feet).—Pretty Miss Crysanthemum has but little to say as to the disposal of her heart—at least such is the custom in Japan. Her parents attend to that for her. However, pretty little O Yama Sum had a will of her own, and casting tradition to the winds, insisted upon making her own choice, so the Biograph camera here records the outcome. The Grand Daimio has long loved the pretty O Yama and presents himself before her mother in quest of her hand. His offer is scorned by O Yama, for she loves another, a low-born, but worthy warrior. She writes to him to meet her by the Great Lamp of Savatya that night, and they are nearly caught through the treachery of one of the butterflies of the court, who tells the Daimio of his rival. The lover escapes by hiding in the great lamp and afterwards being conveyed in a large hamper to the Bower of Roses, where he is captured and thrown into the torture chamber. She is conducted to the chamber, and the sight that greets her fairly paralyzes her; for here is her lover hung by the wrists, dangling over a treacherous bed of upturned knife-blades, which inflict ugly wounds at the slightest move of his body. Here the Daimio gives poor O Yama her choice between her marriage with him or her lover's torture, but the brave warrior urges her to refuse. The sword, now incandescently hot, is applied to his breast, leaving great red scars, but he is still obdurate, until at length he is cut down and expires in the arms of O Yama. As he falls, his dagger drops to the floor, and O Yama, unobserved, conceals it in her obi. Then turning to the Daimio, she consents to become his bride. There in the wedding hall are assembled the courtiers and butterflies, when enter the priest, or "Marrier," as he is called, followed by O Yama, her mother and the Daimio. The Daimio, his bride-elect, and her mother take their places on the cushions, while the marrier pours the sake, handing the cup first to the mother, then to the Daimio, who both drink of the wine, and finally to O Yama, who, instead of drinking, whips the dagger from her obi, plunges it deep into the heart of the Daimio, who drops like a log, dead at her feet, and before anyone can intervene she performs the happy dispatch with the same bodkin.

The Child's Forgiveness, Radios (490 feet).—A pathetic drama, depicting the vicissitudes of a child and a long suffering husband at the hands of a virago of a wife and mother. The unnatural woman by ill-treatment and oppression makes the child's life such a burden that she wildly rushes from home. Overcome by hunger and exhaustion she falls senseless, and is carried by a passing motorist to his home. Kind treatment and suitable garments soon convert the waif into a sweet little girl, the pet of the entire household. Meanwhile her disconsolate father seeks high and low for his child. She recognizes him while at tea in her benefactor's garden, and together they return home. The girl ventures alone into her mother's presence, and ill-treatment is about to be resumed when the father and

benefactor arrive. A stormy scene ensues, which ends in the mother selling her interest in the child. The father accepts work as gardener. Word is brought that the mother is dying, and the party proceeds to the squalid tenement. They are just in time, and the girl flings herself upon her mother's breast; a touching scene.

The Triumphant Lovers, Radios (381 feet).—Romantic love scenes, paternal authority exercised in favor of an aged, but wealthy suitor; rejection of his young, but less fortunate rival and despair of the youth as he craves a parting interview with his beloved—these scenes form the introduction. Sorrowful adieux barely interrupted by the aged suitor, who attempts to murder the youth; the girl's devotion; her father's horror of the crime and the withdrawal of his objections, arrest of the old suitor and future happiness for the young couple.

The French Airship "La Republique," Urban-Eclipse (350 feet).—An aerial monster is towed and guided by a company of French

engineers to the center of the government trial grounds outside Paris, here steering and driving gear is tested; the officers and mechanics mount the car, and word is passed to cast off. Gracefully and gently it rises to a great height and answers every touch of the navigator. The course is continually altered to all points of the compass, and the powers of sailing against the wind are fully demonstrated. With equal success the descent is accomplished.

The Asphalter's Hallucination, Urban-Eclipse (407 feet).—A comic picture story of two Italian asphalters. One is industrious and the other arrives in a lazy mood. A quarrel ensues, which results in the loafer throwing his chum into a cauldron of boiling tar. The survivor then goes on a spree, but his late crime so works upon his mind that every one with whom he comes in contact assumes the form and features of his late victim. Most amusing incidents follow each case of "Mistaken identity," and the climax is reached when the loafer is sleeping off the effects of his potations. The victim emerges in sections from the cauldron, the parts unite, limb to limb, and a happy ending is furnished by the villain and his victim, both going to celebrate the occasion.

The Robber's Daughter, Radios (407 feet).

—An innkeeper, who is leader of a gang of brigands, waylays a wealthy guest on his departure and demands heavy ransom, which is refused. The victim is bound, threatened, and left in charge of two of the gang. They are about to proceed to extremities when the robber's daughter arrives and renders the guard insensible by administering drugged wine. She releases the prisoner and sets him on his way, mournfully declining his offer to provide for her a more reputable means of livelihood.

German Dragoons Crossing the Elbe, Urban-Eclipse (384 feet).—Cavalry methods of crossing a wide, swiftly-flowing river are fully demonstrated. Kit inspection and the safe arrangement of accoutrements are first shown, after which the Colonel assembles his officers in a semi-circle and delivers his instructions. The next view presents a party of men prepared to cross the river, and the entry into the water of men and horses is keenly watched from the bank by the rest of the regiment. The second part illustrates the crossing of the main body of men in punts, each man leading a swimming horse. The animals seem to enjoy the experience equally with the men. A scene of great animation, as horses and men are accoutred to assume the march, concludes this vigorous and stimulating series.



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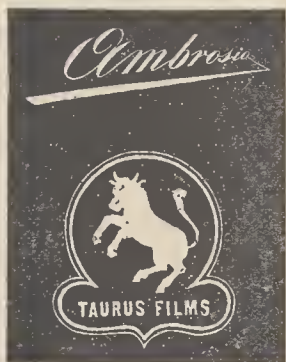
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GOSSIP



A Chanute, Kan., man claims to have a dog that tends the babies, goes to the post office for the mail, does all the marketing, holds the horse, makes the beds and is the finest watch dog in town. C. W. Finney thinks it strange how some people value a useless cur when the Gentry Shows hit town.

Two exceedingly wide-awake, equal-to-emergency folks are to be found in the business office of the Joplin Globe, namely Miss Ave B. Lopp, secretary and treasurer, and Mr. C. O. Ruby, advertising manager. I assure you, folks, I feel very grateful to you for great favors extended me during my recent visit. Many thanks and to you also, Business Manager Lawson and am sorry business called you away so suddenly. Certainly do look forward with great pleasure to my next visit with you and hope the time is not far distant. Managing Editor Howard I hope to find in a better humor, but I forgive and forget very easily. Here's luck to the Joplin Globe and all of you who make it.

Joplin, Mo., has a real hotel. Real in everything that the word implies. It's the Connor. Astronomers tell us that here and there in the diamond studded firmament of space are groups of glittering orbs that to the unaided eye are but as a single point of effulgent splendor. Analyzed by the critical lenses of the telescope, the brilliancy resolves itself into many worlds which through their proximity have blended their rays into one gorgeous whole. They must have had their telescopes trained on the Connor Hotel. It's the most gorgeous place I have had the pleasure of being a guest of, when the size of town is considered. Sam Campbell is manager.

Benefit by T. M. A. No. £2.

T. M. A. lodge No. 82, Aberdeen, Washington, which is capably officered as follows. C. C. Quackenbush president, G. W. Duffin recording secretary, and C. V. Loy financial secretary, recently gave a benefit. The program was under direction of Mose Goldsmith, manager of the Empire theater and resident of the Seattle T. M. A. No. 62. Through the courtesy of the following managers, Aberdeen lodge was able to make such a big success: C. V. Loy, manager Grand; Mose Goldsmith, manager Empire; Perry Girtton, Girtton Stock company; J. C. Bush, the Vaudette; Chandler and Faunt LeRoy, Bijou; C. Henderson, Orpheum, and the Aberdeen City Band.

The program opened with an instrumental concert by the band. Following this, C. C. Quackenbush, president of the Aberdeen Lodge (and one of the cleverest chaps I ever met) spoke on "The objects of the order." Then the interesting moving pictures by Elliot Johnson followed by a specialty by Erba Robeson, of the Empire. Anna Neilson, mandolin virtuoso; Agnes George, vocalist; Thomas Drew, specialty; the Carlyles, in a society sketch and Laura Johnson, with illustrated songs. Then Mose Goldsmith presented Ethel Tucker and the Empire company in the 4th act of Zara, the following being in the cast: Whit Brandon, Bob Kenyon, Edgar T. Rice, Thomas Drew, Arthur Elton, Whit Brandon, Jr., J. Burgett, Edyth E. Monroe, Erba Robeson, and Miss Ethel Tucker as Zara. Jack Q. Wilson, comedian and monologist of the Aberdeen Bill Posters' Association,

Ethel Henderson and Bob Kenyon were next in order. "The Imposter," a one act dramatic sketch by Marian Dunn, with Albert McQuarrie, Iva Shepard and Marian Dunn in the cast, was well presented. Edyth Elizabeth Monroe, popular songs, A. R. Brooks, a recital, were followed by a pie-eating contest in which all young republicans of Aberdeen took part. Special numbers then took place, followed by the Girtton company in one act of A Run-away Match. The finale, Aud Lang Syne, was rendered by audience and all participants.

Bowen to Come East.

Don Bowen, many seasons with George L. Baker, Portland, Ore., in the capacity of advertising agent, has severed his pleasant relations with this gentleman and entertains the eastern "bug." Mighty good man is Don and any one needing a capable business manager will find a jewel if they get him. His address is Portland, Ore.

This sounds like a lie, looks like a lie and guess it is a lie. Anyway it reads good and comes from Plymouth, Ind., so inhale it: "While Oscar Huff, a farmer, was blasting stumps, two steers ate a quantity of dynamite when the farmer was not looking. Huff threw a stone at one of the steers while driving it home. The animal exploded and the concussion caused the other steer to blow up. The explosions were heard several miles."

J. M. Oden, advertising manager of the Guthrie, Okla., Daily State Capital Weekly and Oklahoma Farmer, meets a press agent with one of those affable "glad-to-see-you" ways that makes you spend more time than you had allotted to him. Seems funny to me more newspaper advertising managers don't get wise to this game.

North Picks Up a Curiosity.

I had finished my business in Galena, Kan., and was standing in front of a beautiful stand of bills that depicted the coming of the Gentry Shows, waiting for a car to go back to Joplin, when one of those such as only Kansas can boast of approached, pointed to the stand and said, "are you with it?" Well as I hadn't received any notice to get away from it, I replied "yes, what can I do for you?"

"Well, I didn't know but what Gentry might want a real live curiosity in the animal line so thought I'd try and find out."

"What have you got?" I asked.

"Dern'd if I know w'at 'tis. It has a head like a skunk, ears like a jack rabbit, front feet like a house cat's and hind feet and legs covered with long stiff hair. Its body is round and chubby like that of a 'possum, and is covered with thick soft fur. And—"

Then my car came and I flew for it, but yelled back: "See Mrs. Sapp; I think she's savin' 'em."

Ballard a Swell Fisherman.

Lou Ballard, manager Chit theater, Joplin, is a swell fisherman—a real one. Recently he waded 9 miles waist deep up a creek and got—a cold. He wanted me to go along. I couldn't. Wouldn't if I could. Not for mine.

Teddy Harris, who manipulates the Club Cafe, Joplin, Mo., grows more popular and younger every day. Ted has certainly discovered that which Ponce de Leon searched for.—TOM NORTH.

Trade



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INDEPENDENT FILMS THE FINEST FILMS
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The Largest Wholesale and Retail
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PRICES { 10,000 TICKETS - \$2.00
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50,000 TICKETS - 7.00
100,000 TICKETS - 13.00
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FRANKLIN WILL QUIT HAGENBECK-WALLACE

Services of Noted General Agent of That Show Sought by Other Large Circus Aggregations—Plans Undetermined.

W. E. Franklin will not be identified with the Hagenbeck-Wallace shows in 1909, and there will be a reorganization of the advance, which will be in charge of C. E. Corey, who has been prominently connected with the show. R. M. Harvey will look after the management of the advance advertising cars. There will be no change in the management of the advance publicity department.

The circus world will be considerably interested in Mr. Franklin's severance of his connection with the Hagenbeck-Wallace shows, as ever since B. E. Wallace came into prominence as one of the foremost circus proprietors of the world his advance has been in charge of Mr. Franklin, who, acting as general agent, has established an international reputation.

In an interview with a representative of THE SHOW WORLD this week, Mr. Franklin, who is in Chicago looking after preliminary matters in connection with the International Amphitheater engagement of the Hagenbeck-Wallace shows, said:

"It is true that I will not be with the Hagenbeck-Wallace shows next year. I have received excellent propositions from other circus organizations, but my plans for the future have not been determined."

Mr. Franklin may point with pride to the record he has made in the circus business. He has reached a stage of financial independence, possessing a magnificent country estate near Valparaiso, Ind., and his holdings assure him of an ample income, justifying his retirement if so disposed. It is hardly probable, however, that he will do so, as his services have been sought during recent years by a number of the larger circus aggregations.

The circus business owes much to Mr. Franklin. Many men occupying prominent positions with big organizations owe their success to the education received in his school. He is a man that commands the confidence of the profession at large, and his geographical knowledge of the country and his understanding of the requirements of circus advance are unexcelled.

TO OPEN AT LOUISVILLE.

Royal Indoor Circus to Begin Season Under the Auspices of the Shriners.

After a flying trip to Memphis, Tenn., where the Royal Indoor Circus is to open its season Nov. 23, under the auspices of the Shriners, Business Manager Charles Fredericks returned to Chicago this week. He states that crop conditions in the south appear unusually promising and cotton will be plentiful and command a good price. In his opinion all circuses of merit making long southern tours will reap a harvest.

Mr. Fredericks states that the presentation of the Royal Circus at Louisville will very probably occur sometime following Memphis under the auspices of the Louisville Shrine. Mr. Royal, who is the equestrian director of the Sells-Floto show, has recently added a number of thoroughbred horses to his already extensive string of thoroughbreds, and altogether will have 35 equine beauties for the indoor show. Mr. Fredericks is fortunate in having closed contracts for a fall and winter tour.

White Top Notes.

Fred P. Sargent, formerly with the Barnum & Bailey show, prominently identified with the management of the Carl Hagenbeck show on the Pike at the St. Louis Exposition, and more recently associated with eastern interests, is reported to be in Seattle, where he will probably promote one of the big exposition shows.

Big Otto, who has operated with success an animal show at Riverview Park, Chicago, during the past two years, is to open a Zoo on Milwaukee Ave., Chicago, Nov. 1, for the winter months, and in the spring will put out a wagon animal show which promises to be somewhat of an innovation. Otto says that he will troupe where the grass grows high, and give the folks who are not favored with the big circus performances an opportunity of viewing a real menagerie.

The many friends of General Agent W. E. Franklin of the Hagenbeck-Wallace shows will be grieved to learn of the death of his father at Watseka, Ill., last Monday. Mr. Franklin, Sr., was an octogenarian. A widow and two children survive the deceased. Mr. Franklin died suddenly.

Fred Buchanan, proprietor of the Yankee Robinson Circus, stated to a traveling representative of THE SHOW WORLD last week that it was his intention to enlarge the circus by the addition of several cars next season. The show is now transported on twelve cars and it is quite probable that this number will be increased to 22 for 1909. The aggregation will winter as usual at Des Moines, Ia. The circus has been meeting with success in Minnesota, North and South Dakota and Nebraska, and is now touring Iowa. Manager Buchanan contemplates a long season in the south, closing late in November.

Besides his circus interests Mr. Buchanan is manager of Ingersoll Park, Des Moines, Ia., and the Majestic theater, that city.

Ralph Root, general manager of the Gentry Brothers' advertising car No. 2, has assumed the position of treasurer of the Majestic theater, Des Moines, Ia. His brother, Al Root, is now treasurer of the Yankee Robinson circus.

W. C. Thompson, the indefatigable publicity promoter with the 101 Ranch Wild West show, is doing some very clever work with the southern newspapers in the interest of that organization.

Lou Williams is at the Windsor-Clifton Hotel this week and is closing railroad contracts for the Dode-Fisk circus for a long southern tour.

Fred Gollmar, general agent of the Gollmar Brothers' shows, is making his headquarters at the Windsor-Clifton, Chicago. It is reported that Major Gordon Lillie (Pawnee Bill) will put out a 22-car wild west show next season.

Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Gentry and Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Williams, royally entertained C. W. Finney, W. Duff Neff, W. Weaver, William Wells and James Dwyer of the Gentry staff during the recent visit of the show at Hot Springs.



The above cut shows the hustling crew of No. 1 advance advertising car of the Sells-Floto show. They have put in a strenuous season, but have produced great results. 1, W. Roddy, car manager; 2, B. Simonds; 3, William Morehead; 4, Frank Harris; 5, H. Thurman; 6, H. Barnhouse; 7, P. Peterson; 8, W. D. Dickey; 9, Cliff Guy, boss bill-poster; 10, M. Moshier; 11, Pop Lerrell; 12, Floto, the Dog; 13, Bill Clarridge; 14, Jack Winn; 15, Joe Coes; 16, Pat Malloy; 17, Kettler.

NATIVES WANT TO SHOOT-UP SHOW

Miller's No. 101 Ranch Pick Jackson, Ky. as Toughest Town in the United States.

Lexington, Ky., Sept. 18.

Tomorrow ends the second week of No. 101 Ranch in Kentucky, and business has been anything but satisfactory with the exception of Louisville and Lexington; the amusement loving public of this state seem to have spent their allowance at the numerous fairs, etc., which have preceded us.

If there is one tough town in the United States we certainly played that town last week. Jackson, Ky., produced an audience of about 4,000 people, three-quarters of which were men, each loaded to the guard with so-called corn whiskey, the kind that makes a match look like a saw log, and two shooting irons. The majority of these entered Jackson with the express purpose of looking for trouble. There was none around the show with the exception of two small killings, and one punctured arm. These, fortunately, were received by local people.

Several of our canvas men proceeded to take a bath in the river near by when some old Kentuckian, living about a quarter of a mile distance decided that they were too close to his house. Without entering a word of protest he proceeded to re-enter his abode and detach from the wall a trusty old Winchester, and upon arriving at his front door proceeded to splash water upon the boys with the same. Clothes were a secondary thought and the hundred yard dash sprints that were made by these same canvasmen was great to behold.

One in particular, the name of whom I shall conceal, did his hundred yards in something like nine seconds, dressing on the way. Another native, who had been imbibing in the native corn whiskey, was

affected so with the same that he did a hundred yards down the railroad track, shooting at his own feet with a Colts 45.

Mr. Zack Miller states that the only way he will ever return to Jackson will be in the custody of the sheriff who, I hope, will have more authority outside of the town that he had in it. We Sunday in Stanford, which is but 10 miles from the birth place of the Miller Brothers.

Mrs. G. W. Miller has returned to the show from the Ranch and will continue as a guest until the close of the present season.

J. C. Miller returned from the Ranch at Lexington Sunday, as did Mr. Edward Arlington from New York. Mr. Beckman and Mr. Thompson were also visitors of the show. Mr. Miller has in turn left for a trip to Atlanta, Ga.

A special box has been reserved today for the entertainment of Gov. Wilson, his family and staff at Frankfort.

Miss Rose Bonnett has returned home to Columbia, Mo., and will be greatly missed by the members of 101 with whom she was very popular, besides being one of the best cowgirls ever with the attraction. Texas Dolly Burns has also left the cowgirl string and gone to Oklahoma City, Okla. Frank Naish is now doing pony express.—LEIGHTON.

John Robinson Wed His Nurse.

Carksville, Tenn., Sept. 22.
"Governor" John Robinson, proprietor of the circus bearing his name, was married here today to Miss Maud Logan, aged 30, a trained nurse who has been traveling with and nursing Mr. Robinson during a protracted illness. The groom is 75 years of age.

SIX SECOND-HAND BLACK TENTS CHEAP

Baker & Lockwood Mfg. Co.
KANSAS CITY

HUTCHINSONS TO LAUNCH A CIRCUS.

Former Members of Staff of Barnum & Bailey to Put Out Show of Their Own.

Bridgeport, Conn., Sept. 22.

It is reported here that Charles R. and Fred Hutchinson, for a number of years prominently identified with the Barnum & Bailey and Buffalo Bill shows, will launch a circus under their own direction in 1909. It is said that Louis E. Cooke, at present general agent for Buffalo Bill, will be associated and hold an interest in the venture.—J. F. M.

Shooting Galleries and Baseball Targets

WRITE FOR PRICE LIST

Wm. Wurfflein, 209 N. Second Street
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

WALLACE SHOW TO CLOSE HERE.

C. E. Corey Says Firemen Have Already Sold Over \$100,000 Worth of Tickets for Circus Benefit.

C. E. Corey, manager of the Hagenbeck-Wallace Shows, arrived in Chicago Tuesday to confer with Department Inspector J. C. McDonnell and the various committees of the Firemen's Benevolent Association in charge of the circus arrangements for the Chicago engagement of the Hagenbeck-Wallace shows at the International Amphitheater, opening Oct. 5. At the general offices of THE SHOW WORLD Mr. Corey said:

"The prevailing financial depression has apparently had little effect on circus business this summer. Our season has been phenomenal in every respect. It is very gratifying indeed that we are winding up our season in Chicago with an engagement which will probably eclipse anything of its character ever attempted under charitable auspices.

"I understand that the firemen have already disposed of over \$100,000 worth of tickets, and that a large sum will be realized from the Historical Review of the Chicago Fire Department, which is to be issued in connection with the official program."

EXCORIATES TEXAS CIRCUS TAX.

Beaumont Journal Says Assessment Imposed on White Top Shows is Exorbitant.

The Beaumont, Texas, Journal is editorially championing the cause of the circus in their fight against the \$1,000 per day tax that the state of Texas imposes upon all travelling shows. It defends the cause of the circus in the following manner:

"The circus is an American institution and is looked forward to with greater eagerness than any holiday, with the exception of the day upon which we commemorate the birth of Christ. It is a day of business and pleasure combined in the cities and larger towns and a day of excursions for the smaller places.

"The Journal has no disposition to see the law overridden. If the thousand dollar limit is plain, one thousand dollars per day should be collected, as exorbitant as it may seem. Five hundred dollars for each performance will mean that but one performance will be given a day and only the larger cities will be visited. The old rate of five hundred dollars per day was itself excessive, when the licenses of other attractions were taken into consideration.

"The circus takes some money from every town it visits but it brings hundreds of dollars into every city every time it comes. As a general thing excursion rates are given from the smaller towns for many miles around, and no excursion is more generally patronized. In short the circus is a big day, which costs the city absolutely nothing. The advertising attractions, etc., are furnished by the circus manager and the business men of the city profit by the visit, some to greater and some to a less extent.

"The circus is strictly American, we have grown accustomed to its annual visits, and as much as it may seem like the last one, we all stand ready to see the show."

ATTENTION, CIRCUS MEN

FOR SALE—A magnificent Band Wagon and Circus and Tent Property, including: 3 pair steps, Comet ticket stand, 14 poles, 1 trunk, 2 ticket stanchions, bundle marking sticks, property box, bundle of canvas, shovels, picks, pails, 26 coils rope, 14 platforms, parallels, rope, 1 blue pole, 7 wooden jacks, pair lead bars, lead pole.

Above property to be sacrificed at once. Box 6, SHOW WORLD, Chicago.

NEW PLAYLET PRESENTED.
Work at Si U. Collins, of Detroit, Shows Much Promise.

Detroit, Sept. 20.
Si U. Collins' playlet, 'The Bravest Girl,' was given its first public presentation at the Temple theater yesterday afternoon, Miss Marion Shirley appearing in the title role. The playlet contains possibilities that may be developed in future performances, but yesterday the players were visibly nervous, and, no doubt, lost many of their opportunities.
The action deals with the romance of a young soldier who is ordered to the Philippines. To be near him, his sweetheart goes to the front as a red cross nurse. The gun squad, of which her lover is a member, is believed to have been wiped out by the Moros and their company members have erected monuments in a cemetery to their memory. It is in that very cemetery, where the young nurse has gone to decorate their graves, that a meeting occurs, the young man having been merely cut off from his company. While they are rejoicing in the reunion Moros again attack them, and the red cross nurse valiantly joins in the fight. She handles the gatling gun, eventually dispersing the foe.
The audience received the playlet kindly yesterday afternoon, says the Free Press, and, with some changes that Mr. Collins will make, will soon be put on the road. It is adequately staged, and a pleasing feature of the performance was the singing of a quartet.

Robinson to Winter Here?
Savannah, Ga., Sept. 23.
Robinson's big shows may winter in Savannah, so says a representative who is now in this city. Mr. Geo. W. Aiken, traffic manager for the John Robinson's shows, is trying to find suitable headquarters for his big shows. The show usually winters in Cincinnati, but the owner desires to find a place in the Southeast where he can spend the cold winter months and start out next spring without having to make a long journey to his starting point.
Mr. Aiken is favorably impressed with Savannah, but that his visit will bring the show here is problematical. Several good sites have been visited but as yet no conclusion has been made.—ROBINSON.

- TENT SHOW ROUTES.
- Barnum & Bailey's: Santa Ana, Cal., 25; San Bernardino 26; Phoenix, Ariz., 28; Tucson 29; Bisbee 30; Douglas Oct. 1; Deming, N. M., 2; El Paso, Tex., 3.
 - Buffalo Bill's Wild West: Portland, Ore., 25-26; Medford 28; Red Bluff, Cal., 29; Marysville 30; Sacramento, Oct. 1; Stockton 2; San Jose 3.
 - Barnes, Al. G., Wild Animal Circus, Jas. A. Morrow, mgr.: Missoula, Mont., 20-26; Helena 27-Oct. 3.
 - Eller's, W. A. Eller, mgr.: Mena, Ark., 25; DeQueen 26.
 - Fisk's, Dode: Elk Point, S. D., 25; Sioux City, Ia., 26; Marcus 28; Manson 29; Parkersburg 30; Independence Oct. 1; Dyersville 2; Warren, Ill., 3.
 - Gentry Bros.' Dog and Pony: Belton, S. C., 25.
 - Hagenbeck-Wallace: Huntingdon, Tenn., 25; Paris 26; Mayfield, Ky., 28; Cairo, Ill., 29; Anna 30; Duquoin Oct. 1; Pana 2; Paxton 3.
 - Holmes' Ben, Wild West (Fair): Troy, Ind., 21-26.
 - Kennedy's Wild West, W. H. Kennedy, mgr.: Decatur, Ala., 21-26.
 - King Bros.' Texas Wild West: Morristown, Tenn., 22-25; Newport 29-Oct. 2.
 - Lambrighter Zoo, Gus Lambrighter, mgr.: Nevada, Ia., 21-26.
 - Locke's, Fred Locke, mgr.: Mt. Sterling, O., 28.
 - Lucky Bill's: Goff, Kan., 25; Corning 26; Soldier 28; Circleville 29; Holton 30; Mayetta Oct. 1; Denison 2; Valley Falls 3.
 - Nelson's, Billy, Albano, Colo., 24-26.
 - Norris & Rowe's: Sayre, Okla., 25; Anadarko 26; El Reno 28.
 - Ringling Bros.: Booneville, Ark., 25; Little Rock 26; Memphis, Tenn., 28; Dyersburg 29; Paducah, Ky., 30; Hopkinsville, Oct. 1; Nashville, Tenn., 2; Bowling Green, Ky., 3.
 - Rogers' Wagon: Matfield, Kan., 24.
 - Rollins' Geo. W. Zoological Congress: Adrian, Mich., 21-26.
 - Sells-Floto: Hugo, Okla., 25; Paris, Tex., 26; Honey Grove 28.
 - Washburn's, Leon: Doylestown, Pa., 25.
 - Wheeler's, Al. F.: Fawn Grove, Pa., 25; Delta 26; Rising Sun, Md., 28.
 - Wood's, J. L., Dog & Pony: Sellers, S. C., 21-26.

- CARNIVAL COMPANIES.
- Barnes, J. J., Amusement Co.: Ozark, Mo., 23-26.
 - Cosmopolitan, Great Shows, J. R. Anderson, gen. mgr.: Centralia, Ill., 21-26; Fulton, Ky., 23-Oct. 3.
 - Crystal Carnival Co., Findlay Braden, mgr.: Red Hill, Pa., 23-25.
 - Danville & Kasper Amusement Co., H. B. Danville, mgr.: Belton, Tex., 21-26; McGregor 28-Oct. 3.
 - Davis Shows, W. H. Davis, mgr.: Richland, Mo., 21-26; Lebanon 28-Oct. 3.
 - Dixie Carnival Co., Dana Thompson, mgr.: Gordon, Neb., 21-26; Douglas, Wyo., 28-Oct. 3.
 - European Amusement Co., W. Linn, mgr.: Claremore, Okla., 20-25.
 - Ferari's, Col. Francis, Allied Shows: Allentown, Pa., 21-26.
 - Globe Amusement Co., L. A. Von Erichson, mgr.: Kirksville, Mo., 21-26.
 - Goodell's Shows, C. M. Goodell, mgr.: Braceville, Ill., 21-26.
 - Gregory & Bozell's Show: Richland, Mo., 21-26.
 - Hatch, J. Frank, Shows: Middletown, O., 21-26.
 - Haves & Gowdy United Shows: Stillwater, Okla., 22-28; Oklahoma City Oct. 1-10.



The New Coliseum, St. Louis, Mo.
Is being erected by popular subscription, and when completed about October 15, 1908, will be one of the most beautiful structures of its character in the U. S. It will cover an entire block, facing Washington and Jefferson Avenues and Locust Street, three principal thoroughfares of the city. The building is entirely fireproof and will be one of the largest and most thoroughly equipped Coliseums in the country. It will be ready for occupancy approximately October 15, and engagements are solicited. For terms address SECRETARY
ST. LOUIS COLISEUM CO., 714 Wainright Building, ST. LOUIS, MO.

- Kline, Herbert A., Shows: Rockford, Ill., 21-26; Springfield 28-Oct. 3.
- Loos, J. George, Shows: Jacksonville, Ill., 21-26.
- Maryland Amusement Co., Geo. F. Osterling, mgr.: Onancock, Va., 21-26.
- Mound City Amusement Co.: Jackson, Mo., 21-26.
- Metropolitan, Original, Carnival Co.: Chas. Ouborney, mgr.: Arcadia, Wis., 21-26.
- Parker Carnival Co.: Lexington, Neb., 21-26.
- Parker Shows: Cedar Rapids, Ia., 21-26.
- Patterson, Great Shows, James Patterson, mgr.: Northfield, Minn., 21-26; Eau Claire, Wis., 28-Oct. 3.
- Robinson, Famous Shows: Owensboro, Ky., 21-26.
- Russell, Great Shows, H. A. Russell, mgr.: St. Louis, Kan., 21-26.
- St. Louis Amusement Co., E. W. Weaver, mgr.: Rocky Mount, N. C., 21-26; Clinton, S. C., 28-Oct. 3.
- Sanger Shows, Harry Sanger, mgr.: Moulton, Ia., 21-24; Blakesburg 25-26; Trenton, Mo., 28-Oct. 3.
- Smith, John R., Shows, John R. Smith, mgr.: Cape Charles, Va., 21-26.
- Smith Greater Shows: Belington, W. Va., 21-26.
- U. S. Carnival Co., R. L. Carroll, mgr.: Queen City, Mo., 28-Oct. 3.

ARE YOU A MEMBER OF THE TOOTHPICKS?
This Secret Order Formed by Circus Performers has Many Strange Rites in Its Ritual.
Among the brotherhood of laugh producers who, in all parts of the globe furnish the comedy of circus performances, are representatives of nearly every secret organization in existence, and while all of the clowns are firm in their allegiance to the societies to which they are affiliated, they still find time among themselves to foster smaller cliques of secret pretensions which retain all the solemnity of a real fraternity, while embodying the laughs ever connected with their authors. Innumerable as are these circles, foremost and most unique is the "Order of Toothpicks," which, with its frivolous ritual and pass-words furnish means of good fellowship and mirth wherever in operation. The movement originated in the ranks of an English circus then touring the world, and met with immediate success and approval from all concerned. Then it was, as the season closed and the various members went their ways, that the idea was scattered over the amusement world, until today it is the tyro indeed who doesn't respond to the magic word "Tengo" and its ensuing laugh or drink. To qualify as a member one must need be a performer of popularity and a man either of distinct memory or ever ready purse, or better still, both, for 'tis well that he remember always to carry the insignia of the order which, typical of the name, is a toothpick, and be ever ready at the challenge of one of the brotherhood to prove his standing by its possession or pay the agreed forfeit. The initiation is secret, of course, but wild tales of its weird degrees have leaked to the layman with such a convincing sound as to cause them to be held in respectful curiosity. To say "Tengo" is to announce your membership and demand its due; to respond is to acknowledge comradeship. As to the rest, just mix in around a circus crowd and try to get in the "sub-rosa" gate.—W. R. ROTHACKER.
Iowa Has Real Playwright.
Iowa Falls, Ia., Sept. 22.
Special to THE SHOW WORLD:
Theodore Kremer, Wilton Lackaye and other writers of plays against time, must look to their laurels, for Iowa has sprung a new playwright that has

Pacific Coast Amusement Company

clipped sundry days and nights off the best record for playwriting.
Two thrilling melodramas, two plays boiling over with heart interest, two life stories that make the hot and cold chills play shinney up and down your spine in rapid succession, two stirring pieces with four acts and eight scenes each, all done in one short week—this is the astonishing record of Fred Molin, the rapid-fire thriller producer, son of Dr. S. M. Molin, state manager for Iowa for the Independent Order of Foresters. Three weeks ago Molin came to his father's home to write two plays which will be produced by a company which he will organize and which will fill engagements throughout Iowa after appearing six weeks in Chicago. These are the actor-playwright's present plans, at least.
Twenty-three Years Old.
Molin himself, who is but 23 years old, plays the hero parts, his brother Edward plays "heavyies" or villains, and another brother comedy parts. Miss Eva McWilliams, a handsome blonde whose home is in Los Angeles, has been engaged for the season to play heroines. She has played leading roles in some of the best known stock companies in the United States. William Sandburg, of Omaha, will be cast in another of the parts.
Molin and his two brothers before taking up melodrama a year ago, had a slack and tight wire act with which they achieved success in the United States and in Europe, where two tours were made. Molin's ability as a tight wire artist enables him to put on with realism the scene in which he carries the heroine along a telephone wire from a burning hotel.

Stanford & Western Reopen Empire at Philadelphia.
Philadelphia, Sept. 22.
An event of great interest in Frankford yesterday afternoon was the opening for the season of the Empire theater. The managers who so successfully piloted its fortunes last year, Messrs. Stanford and Western, are still at the helm. Not only were the audiences big at both performances yesterday, but a degree of enthusiasm was manifested that speaks well for the future of this handsome little playhouse.
Quite a number of changes and improvements have been made inside and out. What especially engaged general speculation was how the new members of the stock company would compare with their predecessors. The piece produced, that popular drama of western military life, 'The Girl I Left Behind Me,' gave opportunity for most of the organization to show their quality. Taking applause as a criterion, the verdict was more than favorable.
Among the talent were Emily Smiley and Earle Western, who very successfully took the leading roles. Others to be mentioned include Paul Taylor, Harry

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WANTED at all times first-class acts of all kinds that can deliver the goods.
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BROWN & BERNSTEIN, 1358 Broadway, Suite 8-9-10, New York City
ARCHIE LEVY.....1235 Golden Gate Ave., San Francisco, Cal.
H. L. LEAVITT.....208 Am. Bank Bldg., Seattle, Wash.

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RICHMOND, INDIANA

Coleman, Carson Davenport, Virginia Hennings, Marie Warren, Charles Docherty, Hattie Foley, Ada Prince and Frank Fielder.
Last season's rule for frequency of new programs will be maintained this year, two different plays, drama and comedy alternating, being performed each week.

HORACE WILD TO COMPETE.
Will Test His Aeronautical Ability at Ak-Sar-Ben.
Horace B. Wild, the aviator, who has earned an enviable reputation as a navigator of the air, passed through Chicago from Louisville, Ky., Wednesday, Sept. 23, on his way to Omaha. At the recent Kentucky state fair, held at Louisville, Sept. 14-19, Mr. Wild made nine successful flights in J. L. Gribble's air ship. Mr. Gribble is the manager of the Louisville Gunning System and a well-known aeronaut. Mr. Wild's flights in Louisville were remarkable in that he returned to the starting point each time, traversed the entire city of Louisville and sailed over to New Albany, Ind., and returned. At Omaha, Wild will make flights at the Ak-Sar-Ben, next week, competing with the Baysdorfer-Yaeger airship. Following the Omaha engagement Mr. Wild will appear as a special feature at the Dallas, Tex., fair.
Edward Carter is engaged for advance work by Benjamin Chapin for one of his Lincoln in the White House companies.

W. N. POLLARD

Sole Booking Manager

SOUTHERN VAUDEVILLE
Managers Association

SOUTHERN RINK MANAGER'S
ASSOCIATION
SOUTHERN CIRCUIT

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SOUTHERN CIRCUIT INCREASES.

W. M. Pollard Adds Many New Theaters to the List Controlled by His Firm.

Cincinnati, O., Sept. 18.
The following new houses have been taken over by W. M. Pollard, of the Southern Vaudeville Managers' Association, with general booking offices here: Majestic theater, Lexington, Ky.; Red Mill theater, Vincennes, Ind.; Airdome theater, Washington, Ind. These houses were formerly booked by the Morris Chicago offices. Others added during the past week are as follows: Fairland theater, Beckley, W. Va.; Lyceum theater, Atlanta, Ga.; Gem theater, Greenville, N. C.; Ole Bull theater, Knoxville, Tenn.; Edsonia theater, Johnson City, Tenn.; Gem theater, Columbia, Tenn.; Marlowe theater, Jackson, Tenn.; Mystic theater, Pittsburg, Kan.; Family theater, Fort Scott, Kan.; Marvel theater, Birmingham, Ala.; Odeon theater, Cleveland, Tenn.

SONG PUBLISHERS COMPLETING CO.

The Continental Music Company Forming Organization—Offers Membership to all Musicians, Professional Singers, Composers, Song-Writers and Others.

A great many of America's successful theatrical stars have seen and heeded the wisdom of investing their spare cash in theatrical enterprises, and their success in this line would seem to encourage every man and woman to invest a part of his or her earnings in the commercial department of their professions, since a person's individual success depends upon the extent of his participation in the profits accruing from his work. This is not a form of Socialism, for the participation can only be gained by investment. If a man or woman will not at least endeavor to back up his or her own ability, no one else can be expected to capitalize it.

In re-organizing and completing the Continental Music Co., the plan has been to offer all who are directly or indirectly interested in music an opportunity to become interested in it. That much money has been made in the music publishing business, and that the business is not yet "worn out," are facts it is not necessary to prove. To those interested, they are self-evident. And there is no line of business in which history records as few disastrous failures. For these reasons a small installment investment in this company by a chorus girl receiving but \$15 per week, as well as a high salaried musician or successful composer seems advisable. It seems after all but a question of savings, and there seems no reason why these people should not do their own banking, and get the full earning value of their money. To make it like banking, the company offers the same inducement, "One dollar or more will start you," and they endeavor to surround the investment with every possible safeguard.

The principal difference between their plan and banking is the rate of interest, or dividend returns. By a special bond issue, made to stockholders, the latter are guaranteed at least 10 per cent upon the money invested. The company is now negotiating for the purchase of improved property, plant and equipment, the ownership of which will further secure stockholders, and provide additional profits. This plan appears to be unique in the song publishing business.

Either the singer, musician, composer or song writer before the public is working in the interest of the publisher, or else the publisher is working in the interest of the other, or both, all of the time. It is only natural that they should all cooperate and share profits.

The company promises "A square-deal" policy for each stockholder, dealer, writer or composer as another. The company will answer all questions, and reply to all letters from those who are interested.—HAROLD H. WILCOX, President Continental Music Co.

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THE BEST ICE AND ROLLER SKATES

K. C. office and is open for any position in some good rink.

Clarence Fisk, formerly instructor at one of the rinks at Jacksonville, Ill., is here looking for a similar position and would like to hear from any one who wants a good man.

Mr. Harry Franks, from the Auditorium rink at Seattle, Wash., is here looking for a position as instructor.

Mr. Harry Ryan has accepted the position as head instructor of the Pantheon rink, Kansas City, where he is becoming quite popular with the patrons, owing to his ability in being able to deliver the goods.

Al Ackerman formerly of Madison Square Garden rink, New York City, was a caller at this office last week, and is considering locating either in Kansas City or nearby for the coming season.

Mr. Ackerman is an old polo player and world of experience in this line of work in all parts of the country, and while here would like to hear from parties needing a high grade man that understands the rink business thoroughly.

F. J. Heegel, formerly of the Dreamland rink, Seattle, Wash., was a caller at the Kansas City office and states that roller skating will increase in popularity through the extreme northwest.

Mr. A. R. Samuels, who was recently connected with the Standard rink at Chanute, Kan., called to see me at headquarters last week and says that roller skating in the south will boom again this winter.

I think I can confirm Mr. Samuels' statement, for on a recent trip through the south, I found that a number of rinks were being remodeled for the coming winter season, and in other towns where there has never been a rink you will hear the whirring sound of the little rollers this winter.

Jacksonville, Ill., will be able to boast of three large rinks this season, and all running full blast.

I have added eight more rinks in southern Iowa and northern Missouri, and six more in Oklahoma, that will be members of our already large circuit of rinks that will book attractions this winter.

Attractions for all these rinks will be furnished from this office exclusively, also routed from here, therefore it is absolutely necessary that performers keep me posted weekly of their route, so that they will be ready to fill engagements on the circuit after Oct. 1, and those that do not keep me posted can not expect early dates. Furthermore, you should be sure to refer all future dates to me at this office so that I can arrange them according to our route booked from this office. As you already know, the scale is \$100 per week; \$55 three days, for single acts, and \$150 per week, \$80 three days, for double acts, which will not be varied under any circumstances.

Prof. Edward Delmar is now in South Bend putting some finishing touches to the fine program that he will present to the rinks this season, and as he is now being booked over the American Rink Managers' Association, he is going to make sure of delivering the right kind of goods. He is also having some very pretty costumes made. Prof. Delmar will make Kansas City his headquarters this winter.

All performers and members of this association should send to this office and get the new stationery with their adv. on, which they can use in obtaining dates.

Mr. A. W. Crosby was a caller at the Kansas City office last week, to get a few ideas on the rink situation in this city, and while here stated that he in-

tended to open a rink at Osawatomie Kan., in October. Mr. Crosby is a member of the A. R. M. A. and intends to book our attractions this winter. I wonder WHY?

Mr. F. R. Young, who has been operating a rink at Centerville, Iowa, closes his rink in that city, and will open another city in November.

Mr. Young is an energetic rink manager and builder of portable rinks which he has had quite a success in placing them in towns where it would be quite expensive to build a building for that purpose. He also manufactures sectional rink floors that can be taken up when a manager wishes to locate for a short time in any one place.

Mr. Stuart, manager of the new Stadium rink, Kansas City, is now figuring on a \$5,500 organ for his new rink which will be in operation some time in October. Mr. Stuart has not as yet decided what skate he will install.

Mr. Painter, manager of the new River view rink at Milwaukee, Wis., is doing a big business these days, and would like to hear from performers of the highest grade type than what he has already had, as he finds that unless he books through a first class agency the acts do not come up to the standard, and performers that are near him in the future he would like to have them write to him, stating all in the first letter, and I am sure that he will use the best judgment possible in selecting those that will make good and please his patrons.

Mr. C. G. Lewis, who has been acting

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LADUQUE'S NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE ROLLER SKATING WORLD

BY W. A. LADUQUE



Advice to Rink Managers.

In introducing this little article on the management of roller rinks, I would like to first explain that it is for the benefit of the great many new rinks that are now being built through the middle states, as many of them are being managed by managers that have never been in the rink business, and do not realize the delicate proposition that is before them, in handling so many young people that are in daily attendance at the rinks all over the country.

A feature in the conduct of a place of amusement like a rink, where you are in general contact with all classes, the first and most important matter is the hiring of your help, and it should be the manager's most discriminating and exacting care to see that none but the best, morally, is employed on the floor, thus winning the confidence at all times of the parents of the skaters.

I find that this feature has been closely followed by the majority of the rinks, but as soon as the newness has worn off they seem to fall back in the old rut, and as a result with the carelessness of the employees comes the carelessness of the skaters, and finally the total collapse of your business, and you will find by experience that it requires and is absolutely necessary to show the same care and attention from the opening to the close. Never overlook your skate room or your floor as they are the two most important features that go to make a successful skating rink.

The Skate Room.

Never allow an employee to speak abruptly or use any but proper language to a patron and no matter how often the patron wishes to change their skates, see that same is done in an obliging way, for the time of an employee is yours and it should never be too much trouble to make

the change, and the skate should always be handed to the patron by the strap, as it is not very pleasant for any one to have their gloves spoiled by the oil that is generally on a skate, and little things like this are always appreciated by the ladies.

Never allow a charge to be made for keeping and repairing of private skates, for it encourages your patrons to have their own skates and if they are using these, they are not using the rink skates, and as it is not any more expensive to repair their skates than it is your own, it makes the patron feel very friendly towards the management.

Never allow a skate to leave the skate room unless it is properly oiled and regulated, and every week all the skates in the rink should be gasolined and oiled, and in doing this see that the skates are not left in the gasoline any length of time as this will destroy the rubber cushion.

A continuation of this article will be printed in the next issue of THE SHOW WORLD, which will contain a good many important hints on how to handle the floor, which is in fact the biggest feature of any rink.

Former employees of rinks all over the country are swarming into the Kansas City headquarters' office, and rink managers in this part of the country can get any position in their rink filled by writing me at this office, stating what the position is and what the salary paid.

The Coliseum rink, Kansas City, Mo., will be the recruiting headquarters for obtaining help of all kinds needed in a rink, and managers can rely on any one sent to them from this office, that they will be fully equipped with best references for the position of their calling.

Mr. Bliss, formerly manager of the rink at Peabody, Kan., was a caller at the

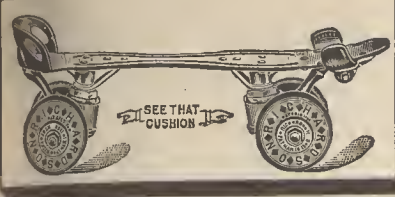
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assistant manager for Mr. Young at Centerville, Ia., was a caller at this office last week and would like to hear from owners and managers wishing an all round man in their rink.

Prof. Monohan was the feature attraction at the Riverview rink, Chicago, last week, where he packed the crowds to the doors with his expert trick and fancy skating, combined with his original bar-rolling act.

The new Hippodrome rink which is being built at Kansas City, will undoubtedly be the only one of its kind in the United States, if not the world. In the first place, the building is 500 feet wide, by 500 feet long, and will contain all kinds of amusements, theaters, moving pictures, etc., together with various concessions in the rink only, on the outside of the skating surface, and surrounding it entirely, so that the skaters may glide from the floor to any concession, and make a purchase.

Mr. Cannon, the manager, has not as yet made any arrangement for any special skate, and I would advise the trade to get busy at once, as prizes like this are not on the market every day.

I note that there are a few performers who, having heard of the scale set by the A. R. M. A. and the A. A. P. E. R. S., are trying to obtain dates and engagements by offering their services at a much reduced price, and let it be known now, that if anything of this character reaches the Kansas City headquarters' office, same will be exposed in print, so that all other performers may know who has such a cheap act. The scale is printed in this issue, which takes effect Oct. 1.

The Dreamland rink at Decatur, Ill., will open week of Sept. 21, and Ed. Baker, the manager, will have one of the prettiest rinks in that section.

I understand that a new rink will open in Altoona, Kan., in the very near future.

An interesting letter was received from the Taylor Twin Sisters stating that they have been very busy, and have been booked over the Wm. Morris Vaudeville Circuit, where they will be busy till some time in November, when they will start on the A. R. M. A. circuit of rinks, opening in Pennsylvania, which rinks are being run through our Eastern office at Brookville, Pa., and in charge of Mr. H. W. English.

The Washington Street rink at Columbus, Ind., will open Oct. 3, and will be in charge of Mr. Lawrence Smith, an up-to-date rink manager.

Rolley, the Skater, was the feature attraction at the Winter Gardens, New Orleans, recently, and proved the hit of the hall all week.

Rink managers should not forget that they can get information regarding rinks, employees, professional skaters and attractions, by addressing the Kansas City headquarters' office, 39th and Main St.

The Adams Brothers, who were with Ringling Brothers circus all summer,

closed with this show and were in Chicago last week.

Roller skating still continues to be the prime sport at Young's new pier, Atlantic City, and a number of the Manhattan skaters are seen there every week.

The Great Monohan was the feature attraction at the Riverview rink, Chicago, recently, where he played to packed houses every night.

The Auditorium rink at Huron, S. D., opened last week to crowded houses which speaks well for their winter business.

A large western polo league is being formed throughout the states of Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska and Iowa, with Kansas City the headquarters, and will involve the largest cities in this section of the country, and employ only the very best material that can be obtained from the old polo field through Indiana and Ohio, and even as far as the New England states, if necessary, as the promoters want only the best, for which they are willing to pay, and as the polo fad is now creating a great deal of interest in this part of the country the outlook for the coming winter is that we will see a major league formed that will surpass anything of the kind ever attempted.

The promoters that are behind this are men that will not stop at expense and are determined to place teams of such good quality in the cities that get franchises, that it will create an interest that will be as popular as our good old American game of base ball.

This is a most popular sport and, although a little expensive to start, is quite remunerative and shows big profits at the end of the season, and I would advise all the polo players that are at liberty to write this office at once and get lined up for the big game, as the promoters will waste no time in starting the schedule as soon as the players have been engaged.

Prof. Harrah was the feature attraction at the rink in Casey, Ill., last week, and delivered the goods to a very enthusiastic crowd which proved their appreciation of this clever artist by packing the house every night.

According to press notices, The McLallens are making the one big skating hit on the United Booking Circuit, outclassing all other skating acts on this same vaudeville circuit.

Another big rink will be opened at Muscatine, Ia., this month, which will be operated by a Chicago company, and will be finished and fitted up in the latest and most modern way.

Prof. Al. Waltz is now filling a few dates in New York state, preparatory to coming west when the big circuit opens.

The Rollaway at Sterling, Ill., is doing a fair business these days, but will open up in full force the latter part of this month.

Miss Bessie Berton, of Tyler and Berton, who has been summering at her home at Los Angeles, will return the lat-

ter part of this week and will immediately give exhibitions with Prof. Tyler at several of the leading rinks in Illinois and Indiana. This team has been in demand and have had to throw down some very good offers on account of Miss Berton being in California.

Prof. Wastell and Miss White are still in Cincinnati, where they have been rehearsing for their future dates. A letter to general delivery will reach them.

The Armour rink, Joliet, Ill., opened for the season on Labor Day. Jack Fotch, the German comedian and fancy skater, who always made a hit with the patrons of the rink, finished his second engagement to a large house there. Mr. Fotch and Ollie Moore have been engaged to skate a series of races at this rink in the near future.

Fielding & Carlos have been meeting

with their usual success playing Michigan and Ohio. The daily paper at Hamilton, O., gave the following review on their act where they are playing at the Grand theater: "A most pleasing specialty is that of Fielding & Carlos, the foremost skaters and dancers in America. Their roller skate work is superb."

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The Great Harrah

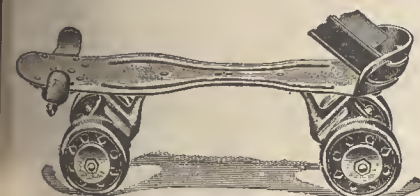
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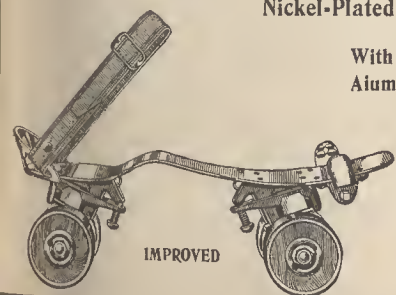
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WASHINGTON SEES TWO NEW PLAYS.

Blanche Bates Opens Her Season in The
Fighting Hope and Nanette Comstock
Becomes a Star.

Blanche Bates opened her season last Monday at the Belasco theater in her new play, *The Fighting Hope*, by W. J. Hurlbut, a new writer. It was described as a big success by the critics. The play deals with the vindictive of the honor of a financial magnate even against the accusations of press and public. During the action, the wife (Miss Bates) of the guilty man, is plotting to find proof that will place the magnate in prison in place of her husband. Instead she falls in love with him and finds her husband guilty. It calls for a great display of emotion as the wife fights between her love for her children and the new love for the financier. Fate deals a suitable conclusion by having the guilty husband shot by the penitentiary guards. Charles Richman plays the part of the magnate.

The production is especially notable in that it is presented by David Belasco and that there is but one scene and that a library view. There is no chance given Mr. Belasco for scenic effects, for which he has been noted. Mr. Belasco declares that this marks the beginning of his advocacy of a new type of drama, the modern American drama, of strong caliber. Mr. Hurlbut is happy in being the first writer chosen.

Nanette Comstock was launched as a legitimate star this week when she was presented at the Columbia in a new play by Louise Lovell, called *Jet*. It is a story of Texas life. Since the Columbia theater has changed hands it has undergone renovations which make it one of the prettiest theaters in town. The decorations are new and a new curtain. Mr. Fred Berger is the present manager, and the bookings are by Klaw & Erlanger.—V. GILMORE IDEN.

Many Admired Jennie.

Paterson, N. J., Sept. 22.

Miss Jennie Houghton opened for a week of exhibitions at the Auditorium last night. Dressed as a young girl in a dress of black net, over lavender taffeta, trimmed with pink roses, she executed a number of most difficult feats in fancy skating, the like of which have not been seen in this city since the days of the Old Wigwam, about twenty years ago. The feature of her exhibition was that on the half skate, in which only the front trucks are used, the same being held to the feet by the weight of her body. Many pretty movements and won-

derful evolutions were accomplished. The large attendance was taken by storm at her clever work.—"FARNOTE."

Knapp Signs With Clarice.

Paterson, N. J., Sept. 22.

Resident Manager Charles Knapp, of the Lyceum theater here, recently closed a contract with the Howard Hall Amusement Co., whereby he will go out as business manager with their "Clarice" company, headed by Miss Devine and strong support.—"FARNOTE."

Elks Go to Allentown.

Paterson, N. J., Sept. 24.

Headed by Robinson's Military Band, a delegation of 500 members of Paterson Lodge B. P. O. E., 60 leave this morning for Allentown, Pa., to be present at the dedication of their new home and while there will attend the Pennsylvania state fair.—"FARNOTE."

Racine (Wis.) Notes.

Racine, Sept. 22.

Miss Dollie Le Gray opened a forty-weeks' engagement at the Bijou theater here last night, singing illustrated songs. Mr. F. Mills and Edw. Kendall were in the city today completing arrangements for the appearance of Sam S. and Lee Shubert's attraction, *The Wolf*, which is to appear at the Racine theater Sept. 28.—SMITH.

Globe Theater at Racine.

Racine, Wis., Sept. 22.

The Globe theater will be opened in one week by the Lovelands of Chicago; moving pictures, illustrated songs and a five-piece orchestra will form the entertainment.

Many improvements are being made on the theater which will make this theater one of the best in the city.

Majestic to Open.

The Majestic theater, Cedar Rapids, Ia., under the management of Victor Hugo, will open next week. The bookings are made through the Western Vaudeville Managers' Association.

CHAS. BURKET BUYS MYSTIC.

Picture House Changes Hands, H. G. Clark Leaving City Soon.

Findlay, O., Sept. 12.

Charles O. Burket closed a deal, Monday, for the purchase of the Mystic Motion Picture theater, conducted for the past year by H. G. Clark. The latter

will remain in the city, assisting Mr. Burket until after the county fair is held, when he will leave for Cuba, to make his future home. About \$2,000 was involved in the transfer of the theater.

Mr. Clark came here from Postoria, says the Republican. He has been very successful in the operation of the little playhouse and has made many friends in the city. He expects to operate a circuit of possibly ten theaters in Cuba.

Appointed Manager.

Youngstown, O., Sept. 12.

Charles Klotpot has been appointed manager of the Star theaterium in West Federal street. He has owned several theateriums and has had considerable experience.

Ban on Circuses During Carolina Fair.

Greensboro, N. C., Sept. 11.

The county commissioners met here last week and passed an ordinance prohibiting a circus to exhibit in this county during October. This was done to keep all such shows from conflicting with the big Central Carolina Fair and the Greensboro Centennial and Home-Coming week, which occurs the week of October 11. Ringling Bros. circus had booked for that week.—CHICORA.

FLORENCE DAVIS ILL.

Leading Woman Forced to Leave Cast of Under the Greenwood Tree at Mobile.

Miss Florence Davis, leading lady in *Under the Greenwood Tree*, which played at the Mobile theater tonight, was taken suddenly ill while on the train enroute from Flomaton to Mobile. Announcement was made that owing to the illness of Miss Davis it would be impossible for her to appear, her part being taken by Miss Theodora Dudley, who had been cast for the part of Peggy Ingledew, the private secretary. Miss Mary Milburn being called on to take the part of Peggy. Taking into consideration the fact that the parts were new to both and neither of them had over three hours' study, they gave a very creditable rendition to a well-pleased audience. Miss Davis hopes to be able to resume her part in New Orleans next week.—B. J. WILLIAMS.

Schloss Will Not Build.

S. A. Schloss, of Wilmington, N. C., who some weeks ago announced his intention to change part of the Auditorium at Greensboro, N. C., into a theater, has notified the Auditorium company that he will abandon the project. Mr. Schloss had gotten part of the building material in place and had started part of the foundation before deciding to quit the work.

Schloss had put up a cash bond as a guarantee of good faith and the Auditorium company state they will hold this and attach the building material which had been placed for the work. Mr. Schloss' interests are being looked after by Mr. C. G. Fuller, his representative at Greensboro. It is understood that Schloss and Jake Wells, lessee of the Grand theater at Greensboro, have come to terms concerning the field there.—C. H. GRAINGER.

CHIT CHAT

Ben H. Atwell, late city editor of the Chicago Evening Journal, and more recently publicity promoter at Forest Park, Chicago, is now handling the publicity campaign for Adlai Stevenson, Democratic nominee for the Governor of Illinois, at the Democratic state headquarters, Sherman house, this city.

James Hutton, director of publicity for Riverview Park, Chicago, and who is to be identified with the Henry W. Savage interests, is holding himself in readiness to join the Savage production of *The Devil at Boston*, for the New England engagement. At the conclusion of the regular theatrical season it is expected that Mr. Hutton will assume charge of the publicity department for the Seattle Exposition.

It is apropos at this time to record the marked success Mr. Hutton has made in promoting publicity for Riverview Park. He has not only inculcated the park-going habit with many thousands of people, but he has also built up a strong personal following of Chicago friends, who will join in wishing him unlimited success wherever his field of operation lies.

Thomas MacLarnie, who is playing the devil in the piece of that name in the Bush Temple theater, has played leading roles with the Castle Square Company in Boston, with the Bellows Company at the Odeon in St. Louis, and with the Peck's Island Stock Company at the fashionable summer resort in Maine. He also played an extensive Shakespearean repertoire with James O'Neill.

The Devil, the new sensation that has

been brought to this country, is being played by four companies in New York, two in Brooklyn, one in Rochester, N. Y., in Lowell, Mass., in Spokane, Wash., in Milwaukee, Los Angeles, Wichita, Kan., Williamsburg, N. Y., and at the Bush Temple theater, here in Chicago, with threatened invasions of other companies in the near future. Edwin Thalhouser was the first stock manager to get the famous comedy.

Miss Alice Yorke, who does the balloon ascension act in *A Broken Idol* at the Whitney, has made application for membership in the International Aero Club.

The library of the Actors' Society has recently received from the War department at Washington a set of plates showing the uniform of the United States soldiers from 1775 to the present date, also a book of regulations as to when the uniforms should be worn.

The library committee invites the managers to inspect its very valuable collection of costume plates. These are invaluable to managers making productions. Lillian Kinsbury, chairman of the library committee, is to superintend the taking of our books immediately. The library contains about 3,000 volumes.

Alfred Hollingsworth has been engaged by Julius Steger for the part of Stephen Winthrop in his sketch, *The Fifth Commandment*.

Mr. George Soule Spencer, just arrived in New York from Denver, where he has been the matinee idol at Elitch's Gardens. Mr. Spencer has not settled for the coming season. He is considering taking of his own company again if an available location can be found for a first-class stock organization. He also has under consideration the leading comedy role in a forthcoming New York production of comedy of exceptional merit.

Seth Cabell Halsey, who has just been engaged by George F. Brennan, to create the role of Lawyer Johnston in *The Traitor*, by Thomas J. Dickson, comes from a long line of legal ancestors. His father was Captain Don P. Halsey, a well-known attorney of Richmond and Lynchburg, and his brother, Hon. Don P. Halsey, is now practicing in Lynchburg, and is in his second senatorial term in the Virginia legislature. His grandfather was Judge William Daniel, of Virginia. Mr. Halsey is a nephew of United States Senator John W. Daniel, of Virginia, whose son is Edward Daniel, of the law firm of Daniel, Harper & Daniel, of Lynchburg, Virginia. Mr. Halsey has successfully portrayed three such parts in other productions.

Joseph Conyers has engaged Thaddeus Shine for *Our New Minister*.

BIG ADVANCE SALE FOR BENEFIT

Forest Fire Sufferers May Be Largely Aided By St. Paul Professionals.

St. Paul, Sept. 20.

A full meeting of the theater managers of St. Paul, representatives of the St. Paul Musicians' Union and others interested in the coming benefit for the forest fire sufferers was held at the office of L. N. Scott late yesterday and the various committees reported satisfactory progress. Manager Morton, of the Auditorium, where the benefit will be given on the afternoon of Friday, Sept. 25, reported that the tickets were already in the hands of the police and fire departments, and that Mayor Lawler had urged the chiefs of these departments to push the sale of tickets as much as possible. Mr. Morton will arrange to place tickets on sale in the leading retail stores and with many different clubs and fraternal organizations. For the entertainment committee Messrs. H. W. Pierong and Theodore L. Hays reported satisfactory progress.

Every place of amusement in the city has volunteered its leading feature for the benefit program and the performance of the various acts in conjunction with the special musical program to be offered by the St. Paul Musicians' Union, will afford one of the most entertaining benefit programs ever given in this city, worth the price of admission independent of any charity consideration. Louis Nash and Robert Mannheimer, for the carriage committee, announced that they had secured necessary automobiles and carriages for the transportation of the various player folks from the different theaters to the Auditorium and return on the benefit day.

Nat Goodwin Seeks Divorce.

Reno, Nev., Sept. 22.

Nat C. Goodwin has filed a suit for divorce from Maxine Elliott. As in the case of his suit against his second wife, Elsie Baker Pease Goodwin, the Buffalo heiress, the complaint is sealed and the grounds for the actions are not disclosed.

It is reported that he is engaged to marry Edna Goodrich, who has broken off her engagement with Harry McMillin. Mrs. Goodwin was at one time reported as contemplating a divorce and marrying P. A. B. Widener, the Philadelphia millionaire.

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